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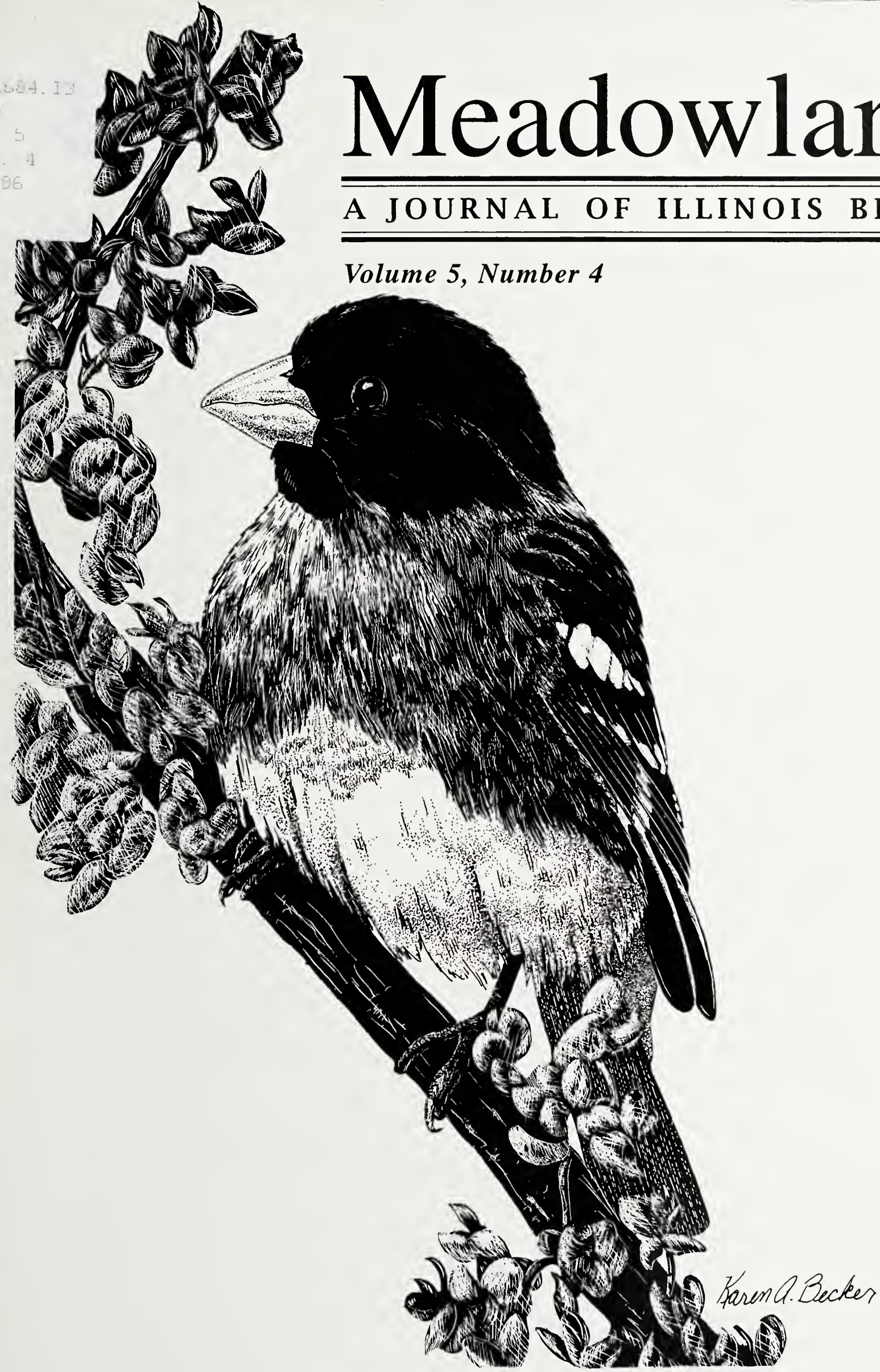

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Letter from the editor

Spring Memories

One early May day last year, while sitting on my screened-in porch, I heard the distinctive song of a Mourning Warbler, a bird I had never seen in my backyard. I bounded outside stumbling over bird food and other paraphernelia to find the male in my honeysuckle, singing away, displaying his black bib.

Well, wasn't this a find? However when I told *Meadowlark* art editor Denis Kania about the Mourning Warbler that had been hanging around my backyard for more than a week, he responded with a blase: "Mourning Warblers are junk birds in backyards this spring."

And when my sister told a Libertyville man who is an IOS member about my Mourning Warbler, he said, "Big deal. Now if she said she had a Connecticut Warbler, maybe I'd be impressed."

Several days later while standing in my living room with windows open on one of the first sunny days during the unusually cold and wet spring, I heard the song that would impress him. A Connecticut Warbler was belting its heart out in the Norway spruce in my front yard.

I went outside and watched it fly to my next-door neighbor's black walnut where it hummed a few more bars, then ducked into her white fir. I rounded up two witnesses to confirm this sighting. But I remain today incredulous, thinking it was all a dream.

Two Clay-colored Sparrows also spent a half an hour feeding on my front lawn last spring. So I added three incredible species to my backyard bird list.

The spring of 1996, however, was bittersweet. Many small insect-eating birds perished unable to find food due to the low insect count and incredibly cold weather. The Cerulean Warbler my sister discovered on the ground in a parking lot at a forest preserve did not look like it would survive the spring.

I'm not sure if I want to experience another spring like that one.

Perhaps it's best to savor the memories by reading the stories in this issue about the spring that Paul Clyne said would never end.

Sheryl DeVore

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American Avocet, Waukegan Municipal Beach, Lake Co. 24 April 1996. Photo by David B. Johnson.

Articles

Regional Trends and Annual Variations in the Spring Arrival of Midwestern Birds **122**
—L. Barrie Hunt and James B. Cope

Illinois' Incredible 1996 Spring Migration **129**
—Christine Williamson

The 1996 Illinois Spring Bird Count **133**
—Peter Petersen

Departments

Feeder Station **138**
Backyard Birds in the Amazing 1996 Spring
—Sue Friscia

Spring Willets **139**
Photo Page
—Dennis Oehmke

Field Notes **140**
Spring Migration 1996
—Myrna Deaton

Index - Volume 5 **158**
—Renee Baade

About Our Cover:

A male Black-headed Grosbeak was seen 10 May in a Downers Grove backyard, and represents Illinois' fifth spring record since 1989. Drawing by Karen Becker.

Correction: *The cover illustration of a Townsend's Solitaire (Vol. 5 No. 3) was done by staff illustrator David Athans. We apologize for the incorrect attribution in that issue and appreciate David's understanding.*

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Regional Trends and Annual Variations in the Spring Arrival of Midwestern Birds

By L. Barrie Hunt and James B. Cope

Most regional ornithological journals that publish distributional data tend to emphasize rare sightings and extreme dates of occurrences. Many birders, however, would also benefit from knowing when common migrants are expected to appear. To be most useful such a bird calendar should be based on long-term averages to minimize the distortions of occasional extreme seasons. Furthermore, a single calendar can only apply to a particular geographic locality since seasonal advances of migrating birds show both latitudinal and longitudinal timing differences. From our migration field notes for 23 years in eastern Illinois and 42 years in eastern Indiana together with published records covering 15 years in western Illinois (Craig and Franks 1987) and 20 years in southern Wisconsin (Lange 1986), we have constructed a migration calendar for this midwestern region that depicts gradients of initial spring appearances along both north-south and east-west axes. Included are 91 species for which adequate yearly records were available. Among those listed we have also singled out the 20 species that statistically exhibited the least annual variability in recorded arrivals at our own 2 sites.

Hooded Warbler, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 1 May 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

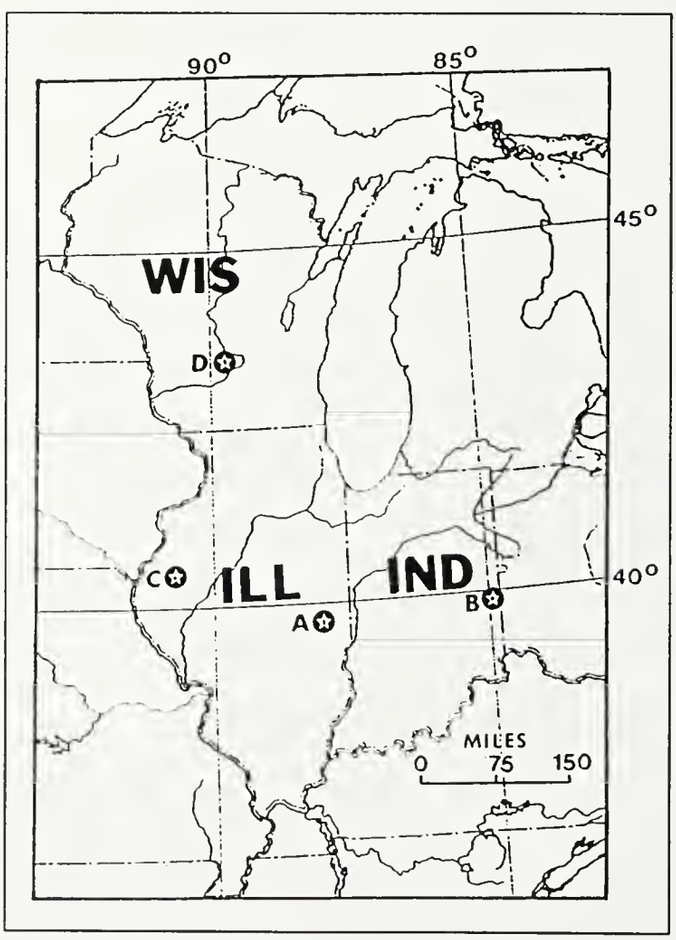


Figure 1. Migration data centers for E Illinois at (A) Charleston, E Indiana at (B) Richmond, W Illinois at Macomb and S Wisconsin at (D) Baraboo.

Several observers have reported on migratory progress in the Midwest in the past. Cooke (1888, 1915) compiled spring arrival sightings from numerous observers and later portrayed isochronal lines of advance for selected species, but his sampling years, however, were few or unreported. Other long-term migration studies in Illinois (Smith 1930), Connecticut (Saunders 1959) and Montana (Weydemeyer 1973) gave average and extreme dates for spring migrants, but none provided multi-site comparisons nor statistical tests of annual variability.

Study Areas and Methods

Our primary migration data were collected from 1965 to 1987 in eastern Illinois in Coles County near Charleston and from 1946 to 1987 in eastern Indiana in northern Union County and all of Wayne County near Richmond. We have included comparable data from western Illinois (Craig and Franks 1987) which cover a 22-county area around Macomb in McDonough County, 1969-1983, and from southern Wisconsin (Lange 1986) in Sauk County near Baraboo and Devil's Lake State Park, 1966-1985 (Figure 1).

In this paper, migrant species were included only if their recorded arrival dates constituted more than or equal to 50% of the study years at the site. Minimum sample size (n) was 12 years for eastern (E) Illinois arrivals, 21 years for eastern (E) Indiana, 8 years for species from western (W) Illinois tables and 10 years for southern (S) Wisconsin arrivals. A few selected species did not occur at the Wisconsin site and we eliminated some species whose partial wintering populations made spring transient movements difficult to recognize (i.e., Mallards, American Robins, Eastern Meadowlarks). Often aided by students and colleagues, our observations were made yearly without contacting each other about the progress of migration. We calculated median dates as average arrivals to minimize the skewing effect of extreme records and to match the 2 published sources. We adopted Craig and Franks' (1987) method of using the earlier arrival date of a pair when the calculated median fell between 2 consecutive dates for samples involving an even number of years. From our own arrival records we also computed means and standard errors as measures of annual variability involving unequal sample sizes.

Regional Trends

In order to compare regional differences in seasonal avian activity at 2 Wisconsin locations, Leopold and Jones (1947) applied Hopkins' (1918) Bioclimatic Law, a phenological rule-of-thumb. This rule states that in spring, periodic biological events in North America average 4 days later for each 1° of latitude northward, 5° of longitude eastward and 400 feet (121.92m) of elevation upward. To test the law's validity for predicting migratory behavior, we used Charleston (39°30'N, 88°11'W, 209m elev.) as our E Illinois reference point and calculated that the typical migrant should arrive 2.1 days later in W Illinois at Macomb (40°29'N, 90°40'W, 213 m elev.), 6.9 days later in E Indiana at Richmond (39°50'N, 84°51'W, 299 m elev.) and 16.1 days

Table 1. February-March median arrival dates of 23 migrants in eastern Illinois and median deviations in days at 3 other Midwestern sites (n = sample years)

SPECIES		E Illinois		W Illinois		E Indiana		S Wisconsin	
	Trend-a/	Median	n	Dev	n	Dev	n	Dev	n
Red-winged Blackbird	S	20 Feb	22	+2	15	+5	31	+18	14
Killdeer	S	21 Feb	22	+10	15	+2	29	+18	13
Common Grackle	S	21 Feb	22	+11	15	+4	28	+18	19
Common Goldeneye	S	23 Feb	18	+5	14	+12	23	+40	18
Lesser Scaup	S	25 Feb	20	+5	14	+17	35	+42	16
American Woodcock	S	1 Mar	22	+7	12	+1	33	+15	20
Turkey Vulture	S	2 Mar	21	+5	12	+15	38	+18	17
Ring-necked Duck	-	4 Mar	20	0	13	+8	34	+38	11
Bufflehead	-	7 Mar	20	0	12	+16	28	+34	14
Horned Grebe	S	9 Mar	17	+9	10	+14	23	+40	14
American Coot	W	10 Mar	19	-6	12	+6	34	+41	15
Fox Sparrow	W	11 Mar	21	-5	11	+10	32	+10	17
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	11 Mar	21	-2	15	-4	28	+24	10
Pied-billed Grebe	W	12 Mar	21	-4	12	+4	35	+34	12
Rufous-sided Towhee	S	14 Mar	22	+8	15	+8	28	+32	15
Red-breasted Merganser	W	15 Mar	20	-9	11	+15	23	+28	15
Blue-winged Teal	W	16 Mar	21	-1	12	+12	36	+27	10
Field Sparrow	U	17 Mar	22	+1	14	+1	26	+22	18
Eastern Phoebe	S	22 Mar	22	+5	15	+1	37	+5	19
Swamp Sparrow	S	22 Mar	20	+6	11	+15	21	+29	11
Common Loon	-	23 Mar	14	+23	10	+9	31	+16	19
Brown Thrasher	S	25 Mar	22	+6	10	+8	40	+27	19
Tree Swallow	S	28 Mar	19	+6	15	+8	36	+10	11
Actual average median deviation					+3.6		+8.1		+25.5
Theoretical average median deviation					+2.1		+6.9		+16.1

a/ Illinois-Indiana arrival trends: uniform (U) within 4-day interval at the 3 sites; first at southernmost (S) E Illinois; advance from west (W) eastward; advance from east (E) westward; trendless (-).

Table 2. April median arrival dates of 44 migrants in eastern Illinois
and median deviations in days at 3 other Midwestern sites (n = sample years)

SPECIES	Trend-a/	E Illinois Median	n	W Illinois Dev	n	E Indiana Dev	n	S Wisconsin Dev	n
Vesper Sparrow	E	3 Apr	20	+2	13	-6	40	+9	11
Chipping Sparrow	E	4 Apr	20	+4	15	-2	40	+13	20
Yellow-rumped Warbler	S	6 Apr	22	+3	15	+2	29	+6	20
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	W	7 Apr	22	-5	13	+2	37	+3	18
Hermit Thrush	W	8 Apr	21	-3	10	+1	38	+3	18
White-throated Sparrow	E	9 Apr	16	+4	15	-1	35	+9	19
Barn Swallow	U	10 Apr	20	-1	15	+1	40	+15	12
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	S	12 Apr	22	+8	11	+1	40	+18	20
Chimney Swift	U	14 Apr	22	-1	14	0	40	+13	17
Louisiana Waterthrush	-	14 Apr	15	+16	9	0	32	+2	19
House Wren	S	15 Apr	22	+4	15	+3	40	+9	18
Osprey	U	16 Apr	18	-2	10	-1	24	+6	13
Broad-winged Hawk	U	17 Apr	17	0	11	0	27	+3	20
Whip-poor-will	S	17 Apr	21	+3	15	+5	35	+7	15
Yellow-throated Warbler	U	18 Apr	20	+2	8	-1	30	DLb/	
Green-backed Heron	U	19 Apr	21	+2	11	+3	35	+13	16
White-eyed Vireo	-	22 Apr	13	+9	21	0	34	DL	
Palm Warbler	U	22 Apr	22	+1	15	+3	34	+6	20
Northern Waterthrush	S	23 Apr	21	+3	13	+6	31	+7	20
Spotted Sandpiper	-	24 Apr	21	-6	10	0	33	+6	20
Common Yellowthroat	S	24 Apr	22	+5	15	+1	42	+11	18
Wood Thrush	E	25 Apr	21	+2	13	-2	40	+9	20
Warbling Vireo	U	25 Apr	22	0	15	+1	39	+10	20
Eastern Kingbird	U	26 Apr	22	0	15	+3	39	+14	18
Gray Catbird	-	26 Apr	22	+6	15	0	38	+7	20
Yellow-throated Vireo	U	26 Apr	20	+1	12	+1	37	+9	20
Tennessee Warbler	S	26 Apr	22	+1	15	+4	39	+10	20
Yellow Warbler	E	26 Apr	21	+2	12	-3	38	+7	17
Orchard Oriole	S	26 Apr	22	+5	13	+3	35	DL	
Northern Oriole	U	26 Apr	22	+1	15	+2	37	+8	19
Red-eyed Vireo	S	27 Apr	19	+4	12	+2	40	+15	20
Nashville Warbler	U	27 Apr	22	+3	13	0	38	+5	20
Scarlet Tanager	S	27 Apr	22	+6	15	+2	39	+12	20
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	U	27 Apr	22	0	15	+1	32	+6	19
Indigo Bunting	S	27 Apr	22	+6	15	+1	36	+13	19
Common Nighthawk	S	28 Apr	20	+6	15	+5	38	+12	16
Blue-winged Warbler	E	28 Apr	17	+6	10	-1	36	+8	19
Orange-crowned Warbler	-	28 Apr	13	+1	10	+7	22	+3	15
Black-thr. Green Warbler	E	28 Apr	21	+3	15	-5	38	+5	20
Ovenbird	-	28 Apr	21	+7	10	-1	39	+6	20
Great Crested Flycatcher	E	29 Apr	22	+5	15	-2	38	+7	20
Solitary Vireo	E	29 Apr	14	+4	9	-4	33	+8	15
Cerulean Warbler	E	29 Apr	20	+3	8	-1	37	+7	18
Black-and-white Warbler	-	29 Apr	22	-3	13	-7	38	+1	20
Actual average median deviation					+2.7		+0.5		+8.3
Theoretical average median deviation					+2.1		+6.9		+16.1

a/ Illinois-Indiana arrival trends: uniform (U) within 4-day interval at the 3 sites; first at southernmost (S) E Illinois; advance from west (W) eastward; advance from east (E) westward; trendless (_). b/ DL = data lacking.

later in S Wisconsin at Baraboo (43°27'N, 89°45'W, 272 m elev.). Assuming that spring migrants follow mainly a south-to-north route and applying only the latitudinal component of the law, expected deviations at the latter 3 sites relative to E Illinois would be 3.9, 1.3, and 15.8 days later. As shown in the included tables, a few species approximated these 2 sets of theoretical values but no species matched them.

On average our earliest migrants appeared in late February with the momentum of new arrivals increasing by mid-March (Table 1). As expected, most showed a south-to-north trend, recorded first in E Illinois followed by E Indiana or W Illinois and often weeks later in S Wisconsin. However, some species, especially waterbirds, exhibited a definite west-to-east (W) trend across Illinois and Indiana that exceeded a 4-day span before again reaching S Wisconsin much later. In Graber's (1968) radar surveys across central Illinois the dominant vector for migrating waves of mixed species was also east of north. We attribute this trend in part to early warm fronts with tailwinds arriving from the southwest and affecting the initial availability of open water. Unfortunately we lack documentation for annual spring thaw dates at the 4 sites. Only the Field Sparrow demonstrated a uniform(U) trend longitudinally, reaching the 3 Illinois-Indiana sites within a 4-day period. Comments about trendless (-) and sometimes anomalous deviations appear later. Actual median deviations at all 3 sites exceeded Bioclimatic Law expectations.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 30 April 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

The bulk of migrant species first reached Illinois and Indiana in April with a rush of first arrivals during the last week (Table 2). For some the trend was again most directly south-to-north (S) with an increasing percent arriving almost uniformly (U) within a 4-day span at the 3 southerly sites. More surprising were the 10 species that displayed an east-to-west (E) gradient from Indiana across Illinois as they proceeded toward Wisconsin. This westward lag suggests a possible southeastern wintering ground. All occur in Florida (Sprunt 1954) and the West Indies (Bond 1985) and most were frequent casualties at Florida TV towers (Taylor and Anderson 1973, Crawford 1980). During April the latitudinal deviations in composite median arrivals diminished considerably as waves of new migrants sped northward.

Indigo Bunting, Sangamon Co. 12 May 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Finally the last group of migrants appeared in E Illinois in early May (Table 3) and 12 of the 24 were recorded almost simultaneously (U) in both W Illinois and E Indiana. Half had also reached S Wisconsin within a week, a sharp contrast to the 4-to 6-week delays during early spring. Again several species apparently followed diagonal tracks (E or W) across the region. As for certain trendless (-) disparities here and in previous tables, we cite Stevenson's (1957) view that common species are more likely to have earlier recorded arrival dates than rarer ones. The Orange-crowned Warbler was infrequently detected in E Indiana where its median arrival date was later than in S Wisconsin. Because Common Loons, Louisiana Waterthrushes, Ovenbirds, and Least Flycatchers also appeared in S Wisconsin before they were encountered farther south in W Illinois, perhaps they are rare migrants at the latter site and therefore more easily overlooked. These confusing dates as well as the apparent late arrivals in E Illinois of the Brown-headed

Cowbird, Veery, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, and Canada Warbler might also have resulted from inadequate coverage of preferred habitats at arrival times.

As the 3 groups of early, middle and late migrants arrived they showed progressive decreases in composite deviations from E Illinois to the 3 other sites (W Illinois: +3.3, +2.6, +0.2; E Indiana: +8.1, +0.5, -0.9; S Wisconsin: +25.5, +8.3, +6.2). These reductions strongly indicate that factors serving to delay the migratory advance in late winter and early spring are much less operative as the season advances, allowing a broad avian front of mixed species to accelerate rapidly toward their destinations.

Wood Thrush, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 6 May 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Annual Variations

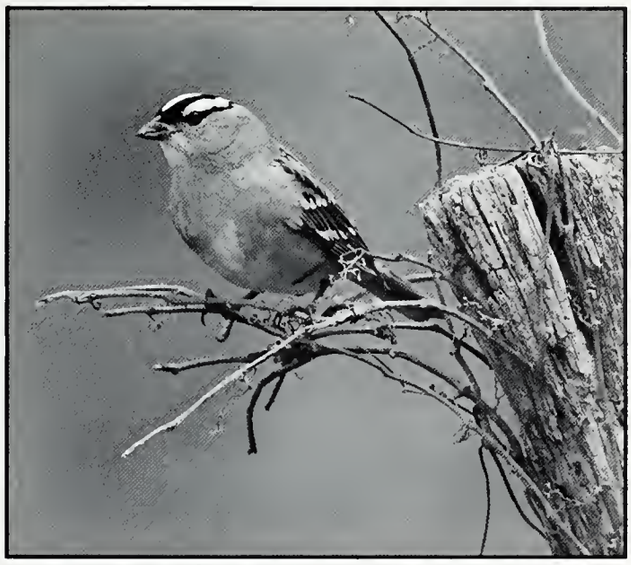
Given the popular media accounts of the swallows returning to Capistrano Mission in California on precisely 19 March each year and the reappearance without fail of the "buzzards" at Hinckley, Ohio 4 days earlier, to what extent can our long-term averages enable us to predict accurately

Table 3. May median arrival dates of 24 migrants in eastern Illinois and median deviations in days at 3 other Midwestern sites (n = sample years)

SPECIES	Trend-a/	E Illinois Median	n	W Illinois Dev	n	E Indiana Dev	n	S Wisconsin Dev	n
Swainson's Thrush	E	1 May	22	+4	14	-7	37	+4	19
Kentucky Warbler	E	1 May	22	+5	14	-2	35	DLb/	
Least Flycatcher	-	2 May	20	+4	10	-2	38	+2	20
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	U	3 May	21	+1	15	-1	36	+11	15
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	3 May	22	+1	13	-1	33	+5	15
American Redstart	U	3 May	22	+1	14	+3	30	+8	20
Yellow-breasted Chat	U	3 May	22	+1	10	-2	34	DL	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	S	4 May	21	+6	14	+2	38	+11	20
Blackburnian Warbler	U	4 May	22	-2	13	-3	34	+5	20
Blackpoll Warbler	W	4 May	21	-1	14	+6	33	+9	19
Summer Tanager	E	4 May	21	+3	10	-3	31	DL	
Veery	-	5 May	19	-7	10	-1	32	+3	18
Golden-winged Warbler	U	5 May	21	+1	14	-1	28	+5	20
Cape May Warbler	U	5 May	19	0	10	+1	37	+5	14
Dickcissel	W	5 May	21	-3	15	+5	28	DL	
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	6 May	19	+1	10	+1	29	+13	17
Chestnut-sided Warbler	-	6 May	22	-4	13	-3	36	+3	20
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	7 May	21	+1	13	-1	31	+13	17
Magnolia Warbler	U	7 May	22	-1	10	-2	39	+4	20
Acadian Flycatcher	U	8 May	20	-1	10	0	37	+9	17
Bay-breasted Warbler	E	9 May	22	+1	12	-4	30	+5	16
Wilson's Warbler	-	10 May	19	-3	11	-4	28	+5	20
Willow Flycatcher	U	14 May	19	0	9	0	28	DL	
Canada Warbler	-	14 May	21	-4	9	-2	32	-2	20
Actual average median deviation					+0.2		-0.9		+6.2
Theoretical average median deviation					+2.1		+6.9		+16.1

a/ Illinois-Indiana arrival trends: uniform (U) within 4-day interval at the 3 sites; first at southernmost (S) E Illinois; advance from west (W) eastward; advance from east (E) westward; trendless ( ). b/ DL = data lacking.

the arrivals of various species as another spring migration approaches? Simply stated, such precision in bird behavior is beyond reality with key environmental factors, themselves subject to considerable variability. Nevertheless, local arrivals of nearly all migratory species do exhibit a nonrandom periodicity from year to year but in varying degrees. Among all spring arrivals at our 2 primary sites, the 10 most consistent species all had mean arrival dates in late April or early May except for the Chimney Swift (Table 4). Most of these species winter mainly in the tropics (Peterson 1980) and thus would be far less influenced by temperate region weather changes than would earlier migrating species that winter in the southern U.S. or northern Mexico. Noting this tendency for early, short-distance migrants to fluctuate more in their northward schedule, Dorst (1963) contrasted the early weather group *(Wettervogel)* with the later instinctive group *(Insinktvogel).* The Chimney Swift (Table 4), our candidate for midwestern "swallow" or "buzzard", was also reported by Cooke (1908) to be the most regular migrant based on "four hundred thousand notes on bird migration". In Wisconsin its arrival dates produced the lowest correlation (r = -0.064) with annual variations in average temperatures and thus it was least likely to vary yearly (Temple and Cary 1987). These authors also found low arrival correlations with spring temperatures for the Magnolia Warbler, and, in another Wisconsin study (Leopold and Jones 1947), the Rose-breasted Grosbeak was most consistent in a list of 40 spring arrivals that did not include swifts or warblers. Ranking 11 through 20 at our combined sites and only slightly more variable were the Chestnut-sided Warbler, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Palm Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Orchard Oriole, Yellow Warbler, Common Nighthawk, American Redstart, and Eastern Kingbird. These too were all late April or May migrants. Conversely, Cliff Swallow and Turkey Vulture were very unpredictable harbingers of spring with standard errors of 6.9 and 5.7 respectively.



White-crowned Sparrow, Sangamon Co. 9 May 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

The Chimney Swift also led all species in having the narrowest range of arrival dates (Table 4) with the greater range of days in Indiana related to the larger number of years in the sample. Despite its usual arrival regularity, in 1947 this species appeared in E Indiana on 5 April, in Toronto, Canada on 7 April, 32 days earlier than its 27-year mean (Gunn and Crocker 1951), and in Connecticut on 12 April, 16 days before its 39-year average (Saunders 1959). Admittedly the recording of annual migration dates lacks precision. Variations in frequency of field observations, weather conditions, levels of avian activity, food availability,

Table 4. Ten spring migrants with the least annual variability in arrival dates listed by pooled standard error increases and range in days

SPECIES	Site	Years	Mean	SE	Range
Chimney Swift	E ILL	22	15 Apr	0.57	10
	E IND	40	14 Apr	0.78	19
Least Flycatcher	E ILL	20	2 May	0.75	12
	E IND	38	30 Apr	0.71	19
Common Yellowthroat	E ILL	22	23 Apr	0.83	14
	E IND	42	25 Apr	0.64	23
Northern Oriole	E ILL	22	26 Apr	0.81	14
	E IND	37	29 Apr	0.70	23
Eastern Wood-Pewee	E ILL	21	4 May	0.79	17
	E IND	38	7 May	0.79	23
Cape May Warbler	E ILL	19	5 May	0.78	12
	E IND	37	6 May	0.85	21
Magnolia Warbler	E ILL	22	7 May	0.73	15
	E IND	39	4 May	0.93	28
Gray Catbird	E ILL	22	26 Apr	0.95	17
	E IND	38	26 Apr	0.72	21
Great Crested Flycatcher	E ILL	22	29 Apr	0.89	17
	E IND	38	28 Apr	0.78	23
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	E ILL	22	28 Apr	0.67	13
	E IND	32	28 Apr	1.01	21

and vegetative development have no doubt affected our degree of success in detecting first arrivals each spring. Despite these immeasurable factors, we feel confident that long-term median dates provide valid information about regional trends and annual variations among midwestern migrants.

Statistical Information

In Tables 1-3 each median arrival represents the middle recorded date in a chronological sequence and is less affected by occasional extreme dates or chance clusters than either an arithmetic mean or mode. The actual average median difference [in place of deviation] is the mean of the species differences [dev] at each of the 3 sites when compared with E Illinois while the theoretical average is calculated from Hopkins Bioclimatic Law by comparing the geographic location of each site with E Illinois.

In Table 4, each mean arrival date is nearly identical to the median date reported earlier. The standard error (SE) is an estimate of the variability of each sample mean. The mean date plus or minus 1 standard error could be expected to include 68 percent of all other mean dates for that species at the site and doubling the SE would increase to 95 percent the likelihood that such means would fall within this expanded interval. The SE indicates nothing about the expected arrival date in any single year. The reported ranges in Table 4 represent the actual number of days between earliest and latest arrival dates for which we have records.

Acknowledgments

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Illinois' Incredible 1996 Spring Migration

By Christine Williamson

The spring of 1996 was best described by one birder's simple phrase, "sweet, but sad." Spring migration was sweet in so far as it brought in large numbers of birds and concentrated them in a few areas, producing the kind of high numbers of birds not seen before by new birders. Meanwhile, veteran birders reported it as one of the best fallouts they have witnessed. Many species arrived late and left slowly, giving unparalleled opportunities for long-term observance of migrants.

But extremely high mortality of migrants, caused partly by unseasonably cold weather and a related slowdown in insect production, overshadowed the excitement birders felt statewide. The spring 1996 season, birders tallied a remarkable 35 documentable birds including a Green-tailed Towhee and Swainson's Warbler, as well as a huge death toll of famished passerines.

The extreme wind and weather created the conditions that caused the bittersweet spring of 1996.

Chicago birder Paul Clyne kept track of the weather patterns, beginning with near-record low temperatures in early March and the heaviest snowfall of the season in Chicago on 6 March, followed by a gradual warming trend which was abruptly cut off by northeasterly hurricane-force winds on the first day of spring. A strong southwesterly front on 24 March preceded a heavy reverse migration along Chicago's lakefront. March and April were both fairly dry in Illinois while drought conditions persisted in the west. April was dominated by fronts from the north, interrupted by four strong southwesterlies. Some of the birds bottling up in the south came through the state on the wave of the last of these winds, which gave way to a stationary cold front from 26 April onward. Clyne's records show that the Arctic front remained until 8 May as a very warm high pressure system moved from the south toward Chicago. On 9 May, the warm front brought in a huge fallout of stranded birds. The warm front from the south banged up against the cold front just north of Chicago, dumping birds south of the collision line.

At 10 a.m. on 10 May, the wind shifted and howled out of the north, dropping the temperature 20 degrees F. in minutes and bringing pouring rain. Clyne observed birds deserting the Chicago lakefront that morning, moving west into suburban gardens and forest preserves, seeking food. Most trees on the Lake Michigan shoreline were still in bud on this date and insect production was almost non-existent. Overnight temperatures on 11 May plummeted to a record 34 degrees F., with wind chills at about 15 degrees F. The 12th of May dawned dismally for many birds which were forced to the ground in search of insects. Observers from central and northern Illinois reported canopy-dwelling birds foraging frantically on the ground. Birds could be found on any available patch of grass almost everywhere and even in the middle of roads, where many were killed by cars.

Mike Baum awoke at 3:30 a.m. on 12 May to hear hundreds of migrants from his deck in Knox County in western Illinois. It would be one of the best birding days he ever had. He went birding at dawn and by 9:30 a.m., had amassed an astonishing 122 species. Baum immediately went into Big Day mode. With 161 species, he smashed the previous Knox County Big Day record of 138, minus the usual preliminary scouting and midnight start time. Of the total, 102 were passerines including Knox County's second Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Baum said 40 Gray-cheeked Thrushes and 35 Swainson's Thrushes were at Green Oaks Nature Preserve, which usually has only

Adult Little Blue Heron, Jackson Park, Cook Co. 18 May 1996. Photo by Robert Hughes.

four or five of each species in one day. One small wetland held 45 Marsh Wrens, exceeding by nine-fold the typical number seen at this spot.

David B. Johnson found warblers all over Arlington Heights during the same period. The northern Cook County suburb has many mature deciduous trees, but most birds foraged on the ground. Johnson saw 12 species of warblers on the ground, including a Yellow-throated Warbler in the middle of an intersection on one of the town's main streets. The situation was one of those terrible joys of birding. What was good for birders was not necessarily good for the birds. Birders statewide reported desperate birds, Magnolia Warblers, Eastern Bluebirds, and Indigo Buntings vying for seeds at feeders and insectivorous birds fighting for fruit intended for orioles. I laid out fruit for starving birds in Water Tower Park in downtown Chicago for days after 11 May, hoping to keep a few alive long enough for insect production to start. Most of the hundreds of birds unfortunate enough to land on 11 May in this half-block long park in the middle of a concrete canyon were too weak to fly back out and many perished, including four Soras. Several birds died in my hands. An Ovenbird nearly snatched a piece of orange from my hand on 12 May and I observed many other insectivores, such as Black-and-white Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, and Red-eyed Vireo on the ground, feeding on fruit, sandwich bread, and seeds.

Record Number of Collected Dead Birds at McCormick Place

Ironically, one of the better gauges of the quality of a migration season is the quantity of dead birds collected at McCormick Place in Chicago's mid-lakefront area by Dr. David Willard, manager of the Bird Collection at the Field Museum of Natural History. Willard has been analyzing the number and proportion of bird species killed on the plate glass windows of McCormick Place for 18 years. "It was a very interesting and strange spring migration. I have never seen such a high mortality rate since we began monitoring at McCormick Place," Willard said.

The numbers of dead birds collected from McCormick Place were low to normal during the early part of spring 1996, until the massive migration movement in mid-May. Numbers overall were low until 10 May when huge numbers of warblers, such as Ovenbirds and Nashvilles, were found at the base of the building. McCormick Place's death toll is generally highest among woodland birds, especially sparrows and thrushes, said Willard. But unprecedented numbers of warblers were collected this year, including almost as many Chestnut-sided Warblers found in two days as in the whole of the previous 18 years.

Fall migration usually produces higher numbers than spring of dead birds collected by the Museum. They typically collect between 600 and 700 birds during spring. But the spring of 1996, Museum staff collected double that - about 1,200 individuals of 92 species. The species count was also abnormally high for spring collection at McCormick Place.

Willard said one of his colleagues was walking his dog along Montrose Beach on 9 May, when he noticed thousands of tiny bodies washed up by the surf. The Field Museum staff began to collect beach kills and gathered well over 2,000 birds. In late May, large numbers of Swamp and White-throated sparrows seem to have been caught out over the lake and drowned. House Wrens, vireos, many warbler species, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, two Yellow Rails, an Orchard Oriole, a Summer Tanager, and a King Rail were gathered from the water. Many bodies were so badly deteriorated that the Museum is still working on identifying them to species. Willard said the winds are usually from the west during spring in Chicago which would tend to carry dead birds away from the city beaches. But this year, the winds were more often from the east and blew the death toll into Chicago.

"It could be mind-boggling if you think about what we found in Illinois and add it to what was happening in Michigan and Indiana," said Willard. "We don't know the effects now on the fall migration or for subsequent years, but if you do have huge flights where high numbers of birds of the same species drowned or were otherwise killed, it could affect the total population of the species, at least for some period of time."

The top ten species found dead at McCormick Place the spring of 1996 in descending order include Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, White-throated Sparrow, Magnolia Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, European Starling, Dark-eyed Junco, and Veery.

Record Dates for Late Migrants

Clyne's spring weather records show the cold front persisting until 17 May, when a warm front finally moved into Chicago. Many new migrants were downed by the fog created as the warm front hit the cold air stuck over northern Illinois. The fog lifted in Jackson Park by 8:30 a.m. that day, taking many birds with it, but Clyne said some high concentrations of birds remained, particularly Least Flycatcher and Veery. May 1996 was nearly the wettest recorded and cool, rainy weather continued to dominate the northern half of the state through the end of the month. June brought more moderate, typical temperatures, with wetter-than-usual conditions, which may have induced many migrants to stay well beyond their usual departure times to recu-

perate and feed. Clyne's Jackson Park records show an amazing record 222 species recorded by 19 June, only three of which were confined to the period between January and February. Record high spring totals over 17 years of observations for 49 species were recorded. About one-third

Swainson's Warbler, Jackson Park, Cook Co. 27 April 1996. This bird was seen 27, 28, and 29 April by many birders. Photo by Thomas Jackman.

of the new high counts were significant, up six times over previous spring totals, said Clyne. No species recorded from Jackson Park sightings showed significant declines.

But many species were very late arriving in Chicago and other Illinois regions, and were also slow to leave for their breeding grounds. For example, on 8 June, Michael Hogg and David Brenner counted over 200 corpses on a half-mile stretch of beach at Illinois Beach State Park, including an American Bittern, a Northern Mockingbird, seven Yellow-breasted Chats, and eight species of warblers.

Clyne's detailed records for Chicago show that 57 species set record late departure dates - approximately 25% of all migrant species observed. Based on average departure dates calculated over 16 years, the average departure date for 139 species was eight days later than normal. Migration of several species which are typically gone from the Chicago area by mid-June was still steadily viewed into July in Jackson Park, including Eastern Wood-Pewee, Blue Jay, Cedar Waxwing, and Red-eyed Vireo. Other surprisingly late sightings in the Jackson Park area included Greater White-fronted Goose (12 May), Great Black-backed Gull (3 on 30 May), Veery (20 June), Northern Mockingbird (16 June), and White- crowned Sparrow (25 June). A Greater White-fronted Goose was reported at McKee Marsh in DuPage County 17 May, according to the Chicago Audubon Society's Rare Bird Alert.

Remarkable Rarities

The Illinois Ornithological Records Committee has its hands full reviewing an incredible 35 documentable birds. In addition, large numbers of some uncommon species made the season very exciting for birders. Tricolored Herons (*Egretta tricolor*) made a grand appearance all around the state, with seven sightings recorded, representing Illinois' 14th through 21st spring records (Bohlen 1989). Most Tricoloreds are recorded in spring, but there is usually just one bird per season and usually in the Lake Calumet region of Chicago or in East St. Louis (Bohlen 1989, Mlodinow 1984). There hasn't been a spring Tricolored sighting in the state since 1990 (American Birds 1990-1995). Two individuals flew over Montrose Harbor in Chicago within two days of each other, one stayed for 10 days at Crabtree Nature Center in Cook County, and the remaining birds were single sightings in St. Clair, Piatt, and Williamson counties downstate.

Other marsh stalkers included the very rare vagrant Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) and rare vagrant White-faced Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) in St. Clair County; several of the latter remained beyond the spring period near East St. Louis. There were at least 15 records this spring of Glossy Ibis, the first since 1993. Little Blue Herons (*Egretta caerulea*) were unusually common in the Chicago area. Six were seen the last week of April and individuals were seen on 3 May and 19 May, according to the Chicago Audubon Society's Rare Bird Alert. The shorebird flight brought unusually high numbers of American Avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*) to the Chicago area in the spring period and in new places. Sixteen Avocets, considered rare migrants in Illinois, were seen at 131st and Will-Cook Road in the Palos area, 12 were in Hyde Park in Chicago on the 55th Street Promontory, and singles were seen on north side beaches. A Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) was seen in Jackson County 27 May, only the fourth record for the southern part of the state (Robinson 1996).

Swainson's Warbler

Among many exciting spring warbler sightings, one Chicago visitor really stands out. A Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothylpis swainsonii*) was a much-observed wonder on Jackson Park's Wooded Island 27 April. The bird was discovered by William Moskoff and Jeffrey and Kristin Sundberg and provided many birders with an unexpected lifer. This very rare vagrant in the northern part of the state was probably an overmigrant (Bohlen 1989). The find was made even more exciting by the fact that IOS members at the Annual Meeting

downstate the previous weekend stood in the spot where Swainson's Warblers once nested in southern Illinois, without seeing the bird. This state-endangered species may be extirpated as part of the breeding avifauna in Illinois. It can be recognized by its long spiky bill, conspicous pale eyebrow beneath a brown crown, dark eye-line, and brownish olive back, with light underparts.

Black-headed Grosbeak

Bob and Karen Fisher were birding on their 3.5-acre property in Downers Grove in Cook County on 10 May, cataloging the tremendous fallout of birds lingering from the day before. While watching a Northern Parula Warbler feeding in a maple tree, Bob saw a larger bird, which had a beak the size and shape of a grosbeak. With the bird facing him in bright sunlight, its black head and russet/orange breast, which paled to yellow on the belly, were very clear. The bird had no streaking as might be expected in a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Phyeucticusludovicianus*), so Bob determined it to be a Black-headed Grosbeak (*P. melanocephalus*), a rare vagrant in the state (Bohlen 1989). After 30 seconds, the bird flew straight west out of sight, not to be relocated by Bob's disappointed wife. The Fishers watched for days as more than 20 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks visited their feeders without their western cousin. This sighting is the tenth Illinois state record (Bohlen 1989). Most have been seen in winter.

Lazuli Bunting

A Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) was seen in the spring of 1996, Illinois' second record and first spring sighting (Bohlen 1989). David Bohlen observed one individual in Springfield 7 May. A male Lazuli Bunting can be separated from a male Indigo Bunting (*P. cyanea*) by its cinnamon sides and white wingbars. Separating females is more difficult, and a possible second occurrence of this species the spring of 1996, a female bird, was not accepted by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee.

Green-tailed Towhee, Boone Co. 21 May 1996. Photo by Dan Williams.

Green-tailed Towhee

Another enviable backyard bird was seen by Arlene Brei in Poplar Grove in Boone County 21 May. Brei looked through the pouring rain at a drenched bird in her yard and had no idea what she was seeing. She thought of hybrids, a weird kind of thrush, a sparrow, perhaps. Calls to her friend, Gene Simrl, president of a Beloit, Wisconsin birding club, and the nearby Syberson Nature Center also proved fruitless. On 22 May, Brei awoke at 7:15 a.m. to a strange song she had never heard before. The bird was finally in clear light, and dry. Brei checked all the references again and stopped dead at a picture of a Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorus)* in her father's 1923 edition of Chester Reed's "Land Birds East of the Rockies." Peterson's "Eastern Birds" showed a head shot of this western towhee and Brei knew she had the bird's identity. When she called Syberson Nature Center back to hesitantly offer her identification, the naturalists there excitedly told her that some Rockford birders they had talked to said: "She's describing a Green-tailed Towhee." People began arriving at her house and watched the bird through an open window on 22 May. The bird was too skittish for outdoor viewing. Photos were taken, one by American Birding Association's President Dan Williams, an IOS member from Rockford. Coffee was drunk and the 14 lucky birders thanked their lucky stars for Illinois' eighth record of a Green-tailed Towhee. Three previous records were from spring, four were from winter. (Bohlen 1989). The bird was gone when Brei woke up the next day.

The Green-tailed Towhee is a rusty-capped western sparrow with green back and tail, black malar stripe, and white throat. It is normally associated with dense shrubs, dense montane chaparral, on dry slopes, in higher valleys and foothills (Rising 1996). This bird is casual or accidental north to British Colombia and east to Nova Scotia, Massachusetts, New York, Georgia, Louisiana, Florida, and other eastern states (Rising 1996).

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The 1996 Illinois Spring Bird Count

by Peter C. Petersen

This year's early date did not bode well for the 1996 Spring Bird Count. Scouting trips at my latitude (41 degrees) had poor results. Reports came in of large numbers of May migrants in Missouri west of St. Louis, but a series of fronts blocked northward movement. However, many April migrants lingered, and results were better than expected for many locations. As La Salle County compiler John McKee said, "With the early count and late spring, I wasn't expecting to do very well. Amazingly, however, our 174 species is a new count record."

The weather, similar to 1995 but much better than 1994, was generally cool with rain and light wind in some locations.

Despite the cool, late spring, counters recorded a new species high of 269, and a new high count of individuals of 593,680, about 40,000 more than 1995. The number of observers, 1521, was 27 less than in 1995.

Nine counties recorded more than 160 species: Cook 191, Union 186, Will 182, Clinton 177, Lake 176, La Salle 174, Madison 168, Du Page 163, and Knox 162. Thirty-one counties recorded 140 species or more. In contrast, the following Saturday on the nationwide count, two of us recorded 187 species in an Iowa county, plus three more in a neighboring county. Both were along the Mississippi River. These numbers represent an Iowa record, probably due to the big migrant wave on 9 May 1996.

TABLE 1 — Annual Comparisons

Numbers	1996	1995	1994	Highest Total
Species	269	266	265	269 (1996)
Individual Birds	593,680	554,828	497,170	593,680 (1996)
Participating Counties	96	97	99	102 (1986)
Observers	1,521	1,548	1,377	1,548 (1995)
Party Hours Walked	3,300	3,378	2,936	3,378 (1995)
Party Hours Driven	2,025	2,042	2,053	2,053 (1994)
Total Party Hours	5,325	5,420	4,989	5,420 (1995)
Party Miles Walked	2,525	2,628	2,049	2,628 (1995)
Party Miles Driven	21,446	22,052	21,503	22,052 (1995)
Total Party Miles	23,971	24,680	23,552	24,680 (1995)
Species in 90% or more counties	55	47	49	55 (1996)
Counties with 100 or more species	76	76	74	76 (2 yrs)
Counties with 20 or more observers	22	23	19	23 (3 yrs)

Willet, Evanston's Northwestern University, Cook Co. 18 May 1996, a late date for this species. Photo by Eric Walters.

TABLE 2 -- Area Coverage

AREA	Possible No. of Counties	No. Counties Participating	No. Party Hours	Average No. Party Hours Per County
1	23	20 (87%)	696	34.80
2	28	27 (96%)	848	31.41
3	27	26 (96%)	1493	57.42
4	24	23 (96%)	2288	99.48
TOTAL	102	96 (94%)	5325	55.47

TABLE 3 -- Species Accounts for the 1996 Spring Bird Count

Key to Table:

** = New Spring Bird Count Species

* = New Spring Bird Count High Count

= Ties previous High Count

Species seen in only one county are bolded

Species	Total No. Of Co.s	Birds	High County	(Total)
Common Loon	14	30	Two counties	(6)
Pied-billed Grebe	73*	831*	Two counties	(109)
Horned Grebe	6	12	Three counties	(3)
Eared Grebe	2	2	Two counties	(1)
American White Pelican	12*	348*	Carroll	(*86)
Double-crested Cormorant	57*	8225*	Cook	(*4132)
American Bittern	18	28	Lake	(4)
Great Blue Heron	96	3028	Cook	(187)
Great Egret	59*	1213#	Will	(236)
Snowy Egret	12*	38*	St. Clair	(*17)
Little Blue Heron	25*	277	Union	(54)
Cattle Egret	26	942	St. Clair	(507)
Green Heron	81	584	Cook	(65)
Black-crowned Night-Heron	21	1407	Cook	(*1246)
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	8	29	Jackson	(10)
Mute Swan	15	102	Lake	(17)
Greater White-fronted Goose	6*	9*	Sangamon	(*3)
Snow Goose	6#	39	Brown	(29)
Canada Goose	92	13894	Du Page	(1977)
Wood Duck	92	3419*	Cook	(203)
Green-winged Teal	31*	260*	Carroll	(36)
American Black Duck	10	30	Grundy	(7)
Mallard	94	7538	Du Page	(1092)
Northern Pintail	6	13	Hancock	(6)
Blue-winged Teal	86*	6353*	Cook	(*452)
Cinnamon Teal	1#	1	Henry	(1)
Northern Shoveler	63*	1206*	Clinton	(*116)
Gadwall	37*	490*	Lake	(*84)
American Wigeon	17*	95	Lake	(*46)
Canvasback	4	11	Fulton	(#6)
Redhead	9	47*	Calhoun	(*22)
Ring-necked Duck	17	374	Cook	(90)
Greater Scaup	5*	141*	Cook	(*124)
Lesser Scaup	60*	2998*	Hancock	(*1109)
Surf Scoter	2#	4*	Two counties	(2)
White-winged Scoter	2#	9*	Cook	(*8)
Common Goldeneye	1	1	Knox	(1)
Bufflehead	23*	185*	Cook	(#84)
Hooded Merganser	25*	71*	Cook	(*15)
Common Merganser	8	17	Will	(5)

Twenty-two Illinois counties had 20 or more participants compared with 23 last year. Cook had 115. DuPage had 100. The total party hours and miles walked and driven approached record levels (Tables 1 and 2). The county coverage for 1996 was 96, one less than for 1995. Those counties not reporting were Marion, Pulaski, Putnam, Randolph, Stark, and Wayne.

Species of Interest
(See Table 3)

One species, Whimbrel, was added to the all-time list, and with the return of the Bullock's Oriole to species status (reported in 1994), it brings the Spring Bird Count up to 318 species for the 25 years of count records. At least two Whimbrels were seen, with two reports from Cook (which could have been the same individual), and one from Lake.

New highs were recorded for 51 species plus 6 ties. There were 31 new highs of individuals of a species seen within one county plus 5 ties.

All-time high counts were recorded for Pied-billed Grebe, American White Pelican (triple the previous high), Double-crested Cormorant (almost double the previous high), and Snowy Egret. Great Egrets tied for the high with 1995.

Waterfowl numbers were strong, probably due to the early date and cool weather. Thirteen species were found in all-time record numbers, about half the species in the group. They were Greater White-fronted Goose, Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Blue- winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Redhead, Greater and Lesser scaup, Surf and White-winged scoter, Bufflehead, and Hooded Merganser.

Also counted were record numbers of Osprey, American Kestrel, and Peregrine Falcon, plus ties for Northern Goshawk and Merlin. Northern Goshawk was found for only the fourth year. American Coots were also at a new high by about 4,000.

Among shorebirds, gulls, and terns we had all-time highs for Lesser Yellowlegs, Willet, Long-billed Dowitcher, Laughing, Glaucous and Great Black-backed gulls,

and Caspian and Forster's terns with ties for Common Snipe and Iceland Gull.

Two resident woodpeckers, Downy and Hairy, were recorded at all-time highs. Observers also discovered two lingering winter species, Red-breasted Nuthatch and Winter Wren.

Thrush, vireo, and warbler numbers were generally low, but new highs were established for the species which usually pass through before the Spring Bird Count. They included Hermit Thrush, Northern Parula, and Orange-crowned, Palm, and Black-and-white warblers.

New high counts were set for Blue Grosbeak, American, Tree, Clay-colored, Field, Swamp, and White-throated sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco.

Purple Finches lingered in record numbers and the Eurasian Tree Sparrow tied the 1982 record and was found in 25 counties. This species is now present in western Rock Island County, and relatively easy to find along the Mississippi River levees.

Five Monk Parakeets were reported from Du Page County and continue to be included as a non-countable "exotic" until the species is accepted by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee.

Other rarities include Cinnamon Teal (4th count record) in Henry County, Black Rail (6th count record) in Knox County, Black-necked Stilt (3rd count record) in Clinton County, Iceland Gull (6th count record), two in Lake County, and Great Black-backed Gull (3rd count record), four in Cook County and one in Lake County. At least one possible species, the Least Bittern, was not reported this year.

Most Common Species

For the first time in 25 years, Double-crested Cormorant, a state- threatened species, made it to the top 20 list of most common species (Table 4). Palm Warbler was on the list for only the second time, while Red-winged Blackbird continues to rank at the top.

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TABLE 3 -- Species Accounts continued

Species	Total No. Of Co.s	Birds	High County	(Total)
Red-breasted Merganser	20*	1704	Cook	(1000)
Ruddy Duck	41*	674	Cook	(165)
Black Vulture	7*	25	Johnson	(16)
Turkey Vulture	93#	2011	Vermilion	(123)
Osprey	34	50*	Du Page	(4)
Mississippi Kite	2	7	Union	(6)
Bald Eagle	14*	24	Alexander	(5)
Northern Harrier	37	86	McHenry	(*10)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	44#	87	Du Page	(10)
Cooper's Hawk	44*	126	Lake	(16)
Northern Goshawk	2*	2#	Two counties	(1)
Red-shouldered Hawk	24	47	Union	(*13)
Broad-winged Hawk	41*	93	Cook	(9)
Swainson's Hawk	1	2	Kane	(2)
Red-tailed Hawk	95	1475	Will	(91)
Rough-legged Hawk	3	4	Cook	(2)
American Kestrel	87#	698*	Cook	(37)
Merlin	5#	5#	Five counties	(1)
Peregrine Falcon	7*	8*	Vermilion	(2)
Gray Partridge	5	15	De Kalb	(6)
Ring-necked Pheasant	61	1413	Will	(105)
Greater Prairie-Chicken	1	45	Jasper	(45)
Wild Turkey	67*	471	Jo Daviess	(34)
Northern Bobwhite	74	921	McDonough	(70)
Yellow Rail	2	2	Two counties	(1)
Black Rail	1	1	Knox	(1)
King Rail	4	4	Four counties	(1)
Virginia Rail	20	62	Lake	(14)
Sora	55#	630	Cook	(64)
Common Moorhen	8	14	Two counties	(3)
American Coot	84*	11153*	Cook	(1772)
Sandhill Crane	11*	74	Lake	(26)
Black-bellied Plover	3	104	Edgar	(100)
American Golden Plover	22	4422	Edgar	(1596)
Semipalmated Plover	15	70	Union	(23)
Killdeer	96	3642	Will	(147)
Black-necked Stilt	1	1	Clinton	(1)
American Avocet	1	1	Jasper	(1)
Greater Yellowlegs	55	568	Clinton	(60)
Lesser Yellowlegs	79*	2602*	Mason	(*609)
Solitary Sandpiper	87*	836	Will	(56)
Willet	11*	124*	Lake	(*77)
Spotted Sandpiper	79*	784	Du Page	(52)
Upland Sandpiper	14	88	Will	(19)
**WHIMBREL	2*	2*	Two counties	(*1)
Sanderling	3	16	Lake	(9)
Semipalmated Sandpiper	25	239	Mason	(119)
Western Sandpiper	2	2	Two counties	(1)
Least Sandpiper	47	900	Rock Island	(125)
White-rumped Sandpiper	6	7	Hancock	(2)
Baird's Sandpiper	1	2	Henry	(2)
Pectoral Sandpiper	56	1663	Mason	(317)
Dunlin	7	18	Union	(8)
Stilt Sandpiper	2	4	Two counties	(2)
Short-billed Dowitcher	21	121	Jasper	(33)
Long-billed Dowitcher	6	172*	Clinton	(*149)
Common Snipe	43	271#	Du Page	(28)
American Woodcock	43	216	Lake	(38)
Wilson's Phalarope	14	28	Ogle	(6)

TABLE 3 -- Species Accounts continued

Species	Total No. Of Co.s	Birds	High County	(Total)
Laughing Gull	3*	3*	Three counties	(3)
Franklin's Gull	1	1	Sangamon	(1)
Bonaparte's Gull	14	4182*	Lake	(*2633)
Ring-billed Gull	57	22994	Cook	(17605)
Herring Gull	25*	770	Cook	(308)
Thayer's Gull	2*	2	Two counties	(1)
Iceland Gull	1#	2#	Lake	(#2)
Glaucous Gull	2#	3*	Cook	(#2)
Great Black-backed Gull	2*	5*	Cook	(*4)
Caspian Tern	20	403*	Cook	(*233)
Common Tern	20	499	Cook	(228)
Forster's Tern	32	1355*	Lake	(843)
Black Tern	14	50	Peoria	(12)
Rock Dove	92	5357	Cook	(817)
Mourning Dove	96	11501	Champaign	(545)
Black-billed Cuckoo	6	9	Union	(3)
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	24	53	Two counties	(7)
Eastern Screech Owl	33	74	Union	(9)
Great Horned Owl	69	319	Union	(20)
Barred Owl	71	359	Union	(39)
Short-eared Owl	3	6	McHenry	(4)
Common Nighthawk	40	141	Richland	(23)
Chuck-will's-widow	10	40	Union	(18)
Whip-poor-will	67	463	Union	(*110)
Chimney Swift	93	6010	Macon	(433)
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	63	446	Union	(*68)
Belted Kingfisher	85	457	Cook	(26)
Red-headed Woodpecker	95	2028	McDonough	(148)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	96	2375	Du Page	(109)
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	31	97	Richland	(27)
Downy Woodpecker	95	2788*	Du Page	(192)
Hairy Woodpecker	77	472*	Winnebago	(24)
Northern Flicker	96	3038	Cook	(314)
Pileated Woodpecker	52	264	Union	(57)
Olive-sided Flycatcher	7	9	Two counties	(2)
Eastern Wood-Pewee	62	420	Union	(120)
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	1	Massac	(1)
Acadian Flycatcher	29	204	Union	(116)
Willow Flycatcher	15	25	Jackson	(5)
Least Flycatcher	52	167	Union	(14)
Eastern Phoebe	92#	731	Union	(53)
Great Crested Flycatcher	83	710	Union	(136)
Eastern Kingbird	92	1398	Union	(105)
Horned Lark	92	3576	Vemilion	(365)
Purple Martin	86	2391	Calhoun	(243)
Tree Swallow	89	16793	Hancock	(3330)
No. Rough-winged Swallow	87	5010	La Salle	(471)
Bank Swallow	61	1994	Menard	(211)
Cliff Swallow	52	1111	Adams	(164)
Barn Swallow	95	8657	Cook	(516)
Blue Jay	96	11783	Cook	(977)
American Crow	96	12096	Du Page	(887)
Fish Crow	11*	119*	Union	(39)
Black-capped Chickadee	61	4617	Du Page	(634)
Carolina Chickadee	35	878	Union	(106)
Tufted Titmouse	93	3225	Union	(216)
Red-breasted Nuthatch	62*	269*	Winnebago	(28)
White-breasted Nuthatch	90	1639	Du Page	(83)
Brown Creeper	34	131	Cook	(32)

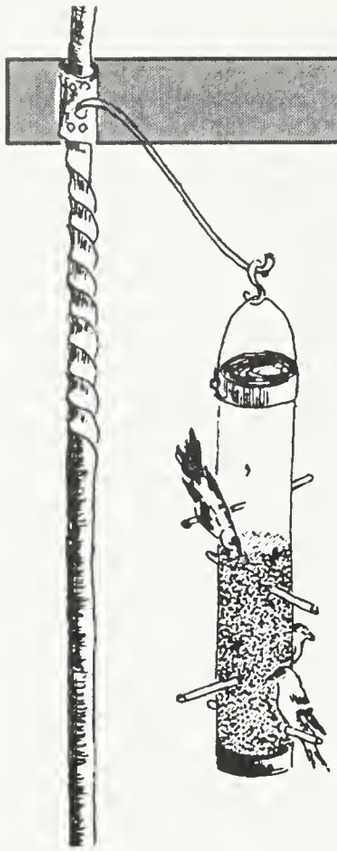
Species	Total No. Of Co.s	Birds	High County	(Total)
Carolina Wren	79	890	Union	(112)
Bewick's Wren	2	2	Two counties	(1)
House Wren	92	1904	Champaign	(104)
Winter Wren	12*	37*	Winnebago	(10)
Sedge Wren	19	54	Union	(14)
Marsh Wren	44*	118	Du Page	(10)
Golden-crowned Kinglet	19*	74	Lake	(16)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	79*	2678	Cook	(493)
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	89#	2273	Union	(280)
Eastern Bluebird	93	2104	Union	(154)
Veery	61	306	Union	(65)
Gray-cheeked Thrush	66	383	Union	(164)
Swainson's Thrush	79	1112	Union	(337)
Hermit Thrush	44*	357*	Cook	(*168)
Wood Thrush	87	938	Union	(137)
American Robin	96	32587	Cook	(2007)
Gray Catbird	96	1558	Champaign	(94)
Northern Mockingbird	70	554	Union	(51)
Brown Thrasher	96	3360	McDonough	(158)
Water Pipit	18#	75	Cumberland	(19)
Cedar Waxwing	47	1262	Du Page	(378)
Loggerhead Shrike	33	88	Union	(11)
European Starling	96	30567	Will	(2571)
White-eyed Vireo	41	386	Union	(125)
Bell's Vireo	13	24	Jo Daviess	(5)
Solitary Vireo	41	91	Calhoun	(11)
Yellow-throated Vireo	55	241	Union	(57)
Warbling Vireo	74	606	Calhoun	(45)
Philadelphia Vireo	19	47	Menard	(11)
Red-eyed Vireo	53	475	Union	(178)
Blue-winged Warbler	46	186	Union	(24)
Golden-winged Warbler	30	155	Union	(*42)
Tennessee Warbler	63	1374	Union	(408)
Orange-crowned Warbler	36*	146*	Cook	(24)
Nashville Warbler	67	699	Union	(133)
Northern Parula	60	588*	Union	(*112)
Yellow Warbler	85*	1536	Du Page	(145)
Chestnut-sided Warbler	36	142	Union	(34)
Magnolia Warbler	40	139	Union	(18)
Cape May Warbler	20	51	Adams	(23)
Black-throated Blue Warbler	9	18	Massac	(5)
Yellow-rumped Warbler	95*	14597	Du Page	(1622)
Black-throated Green Warbler	72	612	Cook	(64)
Blackburnian Warbler	42	110	Union	(27)
Yellow-throated Warbler	38#	144	Union	(51)
Pine Warbler	31	100	Hamilton	(17)
Prairie Warbler	20*	129	Pope	(51)
Palm Warbler	86	10717*	Du Page	(*1927)
Bay-breasted Warbler	18	38	Massac	(8)
Blackpoll Warbler	39	418	Union	(125)
Cerulean Warbler	31	72	Union	(10)
Black-and-white Warbler	84*	1066*	Cook	(172)
American Redstart	62	281	Union	(44)
Prothonotary Warbler	58#	316	Union	(94)
Worm-eating Warbler	22	115	Union	(75)
Ovenbird	68	549	Union	(71)
Northern Waterthrush	73	918	Cook	(82)
Louisiana Waterthrush	55*	175	Union	(39)
Kentucky Warbler	44	377	Union	(163)

TABLE 3 -- Species Accounts continued

Species	Total No. Of Co.s	Birds	High County	(Total)
Mourning Warbler	4	4	Four counties	(1)
Common Yellowthroat	91	1906	Union	(268)
Hooded Warbler	19	39	Union	(15)
Wilson's Warbler	18	21	Three counties	(2)
Canada Warbler	4	5	Clark	(2)
Yellow-breasted Chat	33	221	Union	(64)
Summer Tanager	36	195	Union	(80)
Scarlet Tanager	56	259	Union	(65)
Northern Cardinal	96	11822	Cook	(621)
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	95#	1809	Union	(181)
Blue Grosbeak	22*	72*	Union	(15)
Indigo Bunting	77	3577	Union	(*781)
Dickcissel	61	671	Union	(116)
Eastern Towhee	91	1710	Two counties	(83)
American Tree Sparrow	11#	38*	Three counties	(6)
Chipping Sparrow	93	5849*	Winnebago	(*411)
Clay-colored Sparrow	11*	20*	Morgan	(5)
Field Sparrow	94	4091*	Richland	(751)
Vesper Sparrow	52	220	Winnebago	(24)
Lark Sparrow	34	164	Mercer	(29)
Savannah Sparrow	61	666	Cook	(72)
Grasshopper Sparrow	63	348	Union	(34)
Henslow's Sparrow	5	20	Union	(9)
Le Conte's Sparrow	2	3	Piatt	(2)
Fox Sparrow	5	8	Three counties	(2)
Song Sparrow	96	6619	Du Page	(609)
Lincoln's Sparrow	40#	134	Union	(18)
Swamp Sparrow	81*	2755*	Cook	(*521)
White-throated Sparrow	95*	12767*	Cook	(1321)
White-crowned Sparrow	91	3623	Macon	(234)
Harris' Sparrow	6	10#	Boone	(3)
Dark-eyed Junco	27*	163*	Cook	(#35)
Lapland Longspur	1	150	De Kalb	(150)
Smith's Longspur	2#	10	Sangamon	(8)
Bobolink	68	1824	Monroe	(200)
Red-winged Blackbird	96	69971*	Jo Daviess	(4697)
Eastern Meadowlark	96	7590	Union	(415)
Western Meadowlark	26	215	Henry	(31)
Yellow-headed Blackbird	7	70	Two counties	(21)
Rusty Blackbird	3	11	La Salle	(6)
Brewer's Blackbird	5	16	Lake	(7)
Common Grackle	96	43552	Will	(2191)
Brown-headed Cowbird	96	11037	Cook	(757)
Orchard Oriole	54	329	Union	(108)
Baltimore Oriole	89	1216	Union	(114)
Purple Finch	59*	842*	McDonough	(66)
House Finch	92	4887	Cook	(294)
Pine Siskin	34	166	Du Page	(34)
American Goldfinch	96	12520	Brown	(672)
Evening Grosbeak	8	52	Shelby	(18)
House Sparrow	96	20204	Jo Daviess	(1006)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	25#	550	McDonough	(64)
{Eurasian Collared Dove	1	29	Will	(29)}
{Monk Parakeet	1	5	Du Page	(5)}

TABLE 4 -- Twenty Most Common Species

	1996	1995	1994	Highest	Years in Top 20
Red-winged Blackbird	69,971	69,627	54,840	69,971 (1996)	25
Common Grackle	43,552	40,371	36,708	59,264 (1974)	25
American Robin	32,587	35,720	31,010	35,720 (1995)	25
European Starling	30,567	32,741	29,452	37,736 (1992)	25
Ring-billed Gull	22,994	19,757	29,243	29,243 (1994)	12
House Sparrow	20,204	26,699	23,279	31,321 (1983)	25
Tree Swallow	16,793	7,366	19,436	24,573 (1989)	12
Yellow-rumped Warbler	14,597	10,559	6,209	14,746 (1989)	14
Canada Goose	13,894	16,398	12,129	16,398 (1995)	11
White-throated Sparrow	12,767	7,386	4,738	12,767 (1996)	9
American Goldfinch	12,520	12,467	8,466	13,788 (1990)	24
American Crow	12,096	12,491	9,041	13,226 (1991)	25
Northern Cardinal	11,822	12,088	9,750	12,088 (1995)	25
Blue Jay	11,783	10,661	7,465	13,446 (1984)	25
Mourning Dove	11,501	12,369	9,148	12,369 (1995)	25
American Coot	11,153	7,229	788	11,153 (1996)	5
Brown-headed Cowbird	11,037	12,542	8,278	12,542 (1995)	24
Palm Warbler	10,717	4,977	3,302	10,717 (1996)	2
Barn Swallow	8,657	6,793	17,524	17,524 (1994)	24
Double-crested Cormorant	8,225	5,153	2,111	8,225 (1996)	1



Backyard Birds
in the Amazing 1996 Spring

by Sue Friscia

It was the best of times and the worst of times. The spring of 1996. Songbirds literally blanketed the ground desperately trying to stay alive, scouring under every leaf to find the few insects that survived a series of abrupt weather changes, including unusually cold temperatures. Unfortunately, many birds didn't survive. I spotted a Yellow-rumped Warbler in the grass, and picked it up, hoping the warmth of my hands would revive it. But it was too late. Then there was the Ovenbird I discovered frozen solid, at the base of a tree. I received a call from a fisherman who was beside himself with worry: swallows were flying into cars and the road was littered with fluttering bodies. He wanted the road closed and so did I, but no one listened.

Fortunately, many people don't stop stocking their feeders when spring comes. These people were rewarded with spectacular sights. I saw flocks, no exaggeration, flocks of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks fighting for a position on my sunflower feeder. I'm usually lucky to see *one* each season. White-crowned Sparrows occasionally winter, but now my backyard high count is 20. Then I spotted a tiny sparrow trying to muscle in with the White-crowns. I assumed it was a Chipper but with the help of my trusty binoculars, I noticed a gray nape and a whitish streak down the center of his head as well as an ear patch. It was a Clay-colored Sparrow, a first for my yard. I was so excited, I confided my great find to our Editor, Sheryl DeVore, who was also excited because she had seen two Clay-colored Sparrows on her front lawn in Mundelein, not to mention the Connecticut Warbler she heard singing in her Norway spruce while she was sitting in her living room. The bird flew to her next-door neighbor's honeysuckle, and while she stood on her driveway, she watched it sing for a good 10 minutes. Her sister, Laurel Ann Kaiser, even had Yellow-headed Blackbirds in her Mundelein backyard in a five-year-old subdivision built atop a cornfield.

The best yard bird I "almost" saw this spring had to be the Green-tailed Towhee (see photo and story on page 122) that showed up in Arlene Brei's yard just east of Rockford. When Brei discovered the bird, she knew it was something she had never seen before. She finally found a match in "Land Birds East of the Rockies", a 1923 guide by Chester R. Reed. Brei begins each morning in spring birding by ear, and usually doesn't get out of bed until she has counted 20 species. She told me the towhee started singing at dawn every day, except the day I was there to try to add it to my list. But I can't complain. I enjoyed Brei's yard filled with bluebirds, grosbeaks, and orioles.

Harris' Sparrow, backyard feeding station, Will Co. 11 May 1996. Photo by Joe Milosevich.

Bob and Karen Fisher, whose Downers Grove backyard list totals 170, supplied a variety of fruits, seeds, and nectars to the migrating birds the spring of 1996. Bananas attracted orioles, finches, chickadees, catbirds, and even a Tennessee Warbler. They counted 22 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks in one day. The acrobatic grosbeaks hung upside down to snitch sunflower hearts. Bob Fisher even saw a lone Black-headed Grosbeak (see story on page 122). The Fishers also stock an upside down feeder with thistle, which attracted Indigo Buntings, a bird I have never seen at a feeder.

I'm sure many backyard birding records have been broken. Please send in your new totals to me. The rules are: the birds have to be visible from your home. You can be outside but you should be able to touch your house or apartment or condo while viewing the birds. You can use binoculars and a scope from these locations.

For example. You live in a condominium complex and you are in the parking lot when a Golden Eagle flies over. Can you count it? Not unless you run over to your unit and are close enough to touch the structure before the eagle is out of sight. Your house is on 30 acres and you are working in your orchard where bluebirds are nesting. Can you count the birds? Not unless you can spot these birds with binoculars or a scope from within touching distance of your actual living structure.

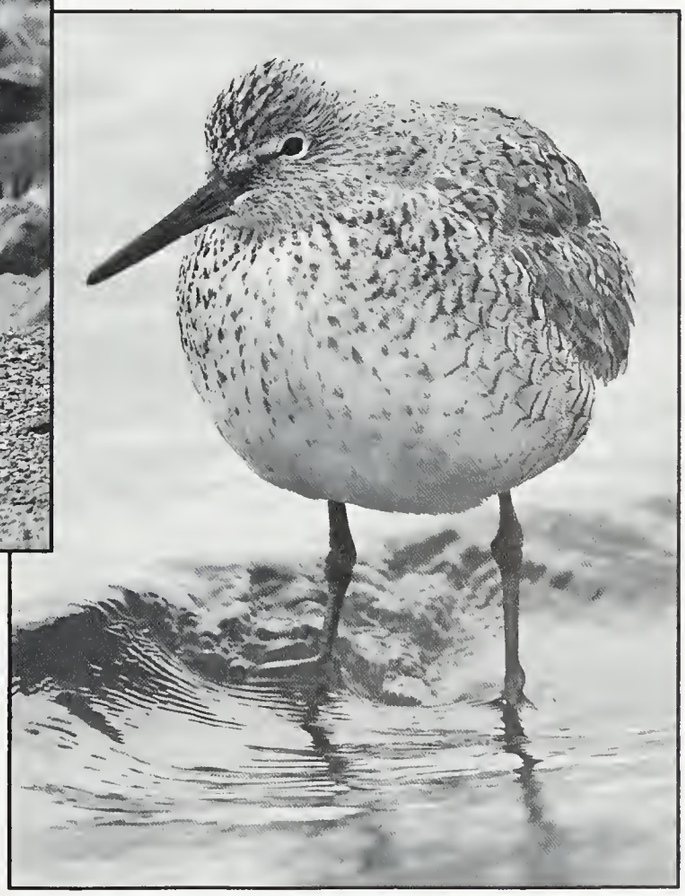
Based on these rules, if you want to amend a previous sighting you sent me, please do so when you send in your new finds from the unbelievable spring of 1996.

—Sue Friscia
3417 West 123rd St.
Alsip, IL 60658

Spring Willets

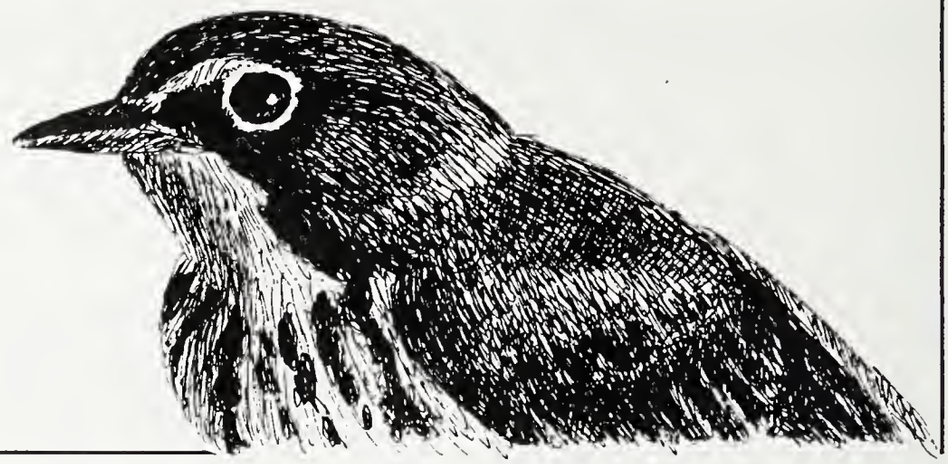
Photos by Dennis Oehmke

Flock of 43,
Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co.
26 April 1996.



Lone bird,
Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co.
26 April 1996.

Field Notes



Field Notes drawing of Canada Warbler by Brian K. Willis.

Spring Migration 1996

By Myrna Deaton

Overall, it was a phenomenal spring migration, with much of the activity concentrated in the beginning and end of the season. April and early May were dominanted by cool, rainy weather, that held back the migrants. Still, first arrival dates were about normal, or slightly ahead of normal in northern Illinois, but the early migrants were not singing or easily visible in the cold and rain.

The first half of March was 7-9 degrees colder than normal statewide. The cold along with the drought in the western U.S. and even colder conditions to the north perhaps combined to bring one of the most impressive waterfowl concentrations in years. Record numbers of **American White Pelicans** and **White-fronted Geese** were reported, with Snow Geese outnumbering Canada in Southern and Central Illinois. Rarities included **Cinnamon Teal**, **Eurasian Wigeon,** and 3 **Barrow's Goldeneye**.

Cool, rainy weather in the first two weeks of April suppressed early spring migration in southern Illinois and diminished any large waves of birds there until late April and early May. Early, middle, and late arriving species occurred all at the same time with many species arriving almost simultaneously statewide during late April. The most watched bird of the spring was a cooperative **Swainson's Warbler** at Jackson Park in Chicago on 27-29 April. Three of the most exciting birds of the season were found during the first week in May: Illinois' second record of **Lazuli Bunting**, and a closely observed **Hermit X Townsend's Warbler**.

Several observers reported that the last three weeks of May in central and northern Illinois provided some of the finest birding they have experienced in the state. A strong movement on 9-10 May into the state hit the stalled cold front over northern Illinois during the late morning of 10 May. This caused one of the more impressive fallouts in recent memory on that day. The extreme shift of weather (16 degree windchill on the 10th and below freezing nighttime temperatures on the 11th) resulted in cold and starving migrants forced to the ground seeking insects as well as the birds concentrating in large numbers at various places. It was as if the nighttime migrants all dropped out of the sky and couldn't move on due to the weather. Perhaps the numbers of migrants were no greater than normal, but all were visible, if not vocal, and so busy feeding that they were oblivious to approach. The numbers of birds killed by hypothermia, starvation, along roadsides by cars or drowned after being forced down by fog is hard to estimate, but nevertheless it was unfortunately significant. Record numbers of dead birds were picked up along Lake Michigan by Field Museum staff. This situation continued through 17 May. The week of fallouts produced several interesting rarities, including **Western Tanager** and **Black-headed Grosbeak**. Thrushes appeared in significantly large numbers. Later arriving migrants, especially flycatchers, were conspicuous and vocal and reported in record numbers. Several species, notably Clay-colored, Lark and Harris' sparrows had a good showing statewide.

Many of the most exciting finds of the spring occurred during the last week of May and into early June. Northeastern IL had two **Scissor-tailed Flycatchers**, **Western Kingbird,** and a **Neotropic Cormorant** while Northcentral Illinois had a **Green-tailed Towhee**. Record numbers of **Glossy** and **White-faced ibis** visited Lake Chautauqua and St. Clair County. Most of the suprisingly numerous **Tricolored Herons** seen during the spring were scattered statewide.

Shorebird migration was notable in several locations. It began fairly early with excellent numbers of Willet, Avocet, Dunlin, both godwits, snipe, Wilson's Phalarope, and Piping Plover. A Ruff, several Black-necked Stilts, and a Whimbrel in Southern Illinois added interest. A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** made a very rare spring appearance this year.

In addition to lots of rarities and impressive migrant fallout numbers, interest was stirred by various late lingering birds. Paul Clyne in Jackson Park called it the spring that

wouldn't die due to the presence of many species well into June and the number of record late departure dates. Waterfowl, gulls, early spring birds such as Red-breasted Nuthatches, Winter Wrens, Kinglets, finches, and many species of sparrows seemed reluctant to move on. A Yellow-rumped Warbler was still singing in Jackson Park on June 23. One has to wonder what surprises the summer nesting season will have in store.

Please note, all breeding records will be reported in the 1996 Breeding Season Report. Thanks to Eric Walters for reviewing a draft of this report. A special thanks is extended to all contributors, who are listed here in full and by initials following any observations included in the report:

Observers: Cindy Alberico, Douglas Anderson, Arlene Brei (ABr), Bill Bertrand, David Bohlen, David Becher (DBe), Dale Birkenholz (DBi), Keith Barker (KBa), Laurie Binford, Laraine Babcock (LBa), Michael Baum, Margaret Baker (MBa), Nancy Bent (NBe), Richard Biss, Renee Baade (RBa), Richard Bjorkland (RBj); Ron Bradley (RBr), Steve Bailey, Sigurd Bjorkland (SBj), Todd Bugg (TBu), Angelo Capparella (ACa), Alice & George Cornwell (ACo), Elizabeth Chato, Hal Cohen, John Csoka, Karin Cassel, Paul Clyne, Robert Chapel, Bob Danley, Danny Diaz, Glen Dawson, Myrna Deaton, Orpha Decker (ODe), Richard DeCoster, Sheryl De Vore, Sylvia Dawson (SDa), Tim Dever (TDe), Josh Engel, Bob Fisher (BFi), Carolyn Fields, Darlene Fiske, Jim Frazier, Karen Forcum, Karen Fisher (KFi), Karen Flemal (KFl), Matt Fisher, Mary Luh Fraunfelter (MLF), Ronald Flemal, Sue Friscia, Jerry Garden (JGa), Jairus Gilden (JGi); Ben Gelman (BGe), Mike Gutstra (MGu), Ann Haverstock, Barrie Hunt, Charles Hallowell (CHo), Jim Hampson, Kay Hanson (KHa), Libby Hill (LHi), Margaret Hallowell (MHo), Robert Hughes, Robert Harnish (RHa), Scott Hickman, Tom Hamilton (THa), David Irons, David Johnson, Thomas Jackman, Dan Kassebaum, Denis Kania (DKa), David Kvernes (DKv), Eric Kershner (EKe), Peter Kasper, Vernon Kleen, Dennis Lane, Eric Latturner, Greg Lambeth, James Landing, Kent Lannert (KLa), Catherine Monday, Cindy McKee (CMc), David Mandell, Dan Miller (DMi), Ed Mockford, John McKee (JMc), John McDaniel (JMd), Jim Meagher (JMe); Keith McMullen, Leo Miller (LMi), Steve Mlodinow, Tom Marquardt (TMa), Walter Marcisz, William Moskoff (WMo), Beryl Nelson, Dennis Oehmke, John O'Brien, Judy Pollock; Jack Pomatto (JPo), John Purcell (JPu), Tom Pucelik, Gerald Rosenband; Michael Retter; Al Rothenbach (ARo), Christy Rowland (CRo), Harriet Rylaarsdam, Jennette Rader, Kevin Richmond, Roger Reason (RRe), Al Seppi (ASp), Darrell Shambaugh, Douglas Stotz (DSt), Gail Sadock (GSa), Gerda Schild (GSc), Joe Suchecki (JSu), Jerold Sadock (JSd), Jim Smith (JSi), Jim Solum (JSo); Jerry Sullivan (JSu), Leonard Stanley, Muriel Smith, Mark Seiffert (MSe), Robert Szafoni, Richard Sandburg (RSa), Robert Severenson (RSe), Rosemary Snow (RSn), Stephen Schmaeng (SSc), Wes Serafin, Craig Thayer, Jack VanBenthuysen, Ken Vail, Barbara Willard (BWi), Charles Wescott, Chris Williamson (CWi), Dan Williams, Don Dee Watts (DWa), Eric Walters, Geoff Williamson, Helen Wuestenfeld, Jeff Walk (JWa), Michael Ward, Mildred Williams (MWi), Patrick Ward (PWa), Laraine Wright (LWr).

As a printing aide, the following abbreviationshave been used throughout this report:

EA = Earliest Arrival(s) MC = Maximum Count(s) LD = Latest Departure(s)

Carl.L	= Carlyle Lake (Clinton Co)	MArb	= Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
CBG	= Chicago Botanic Gardens (Cook Co)	ML	= Mermet Lake (Massac Co)
CCNWR	= Cypress Creek NWR (Pulaski Co)	MM	= McKee Marsh (Du Page Co)
Chi	= Chicago's Lakefront Parks, excluding JP (Cook Co)	MNTP	= Midewine National Tallgrass Prairie (Will Co)
Clin.L	= Clinton Lake (De Witt Co)	MP	= Matanzas Prairie (Mason Co)
CNC	= Crabtree NC (Cook Co)	MS	= McGinnis Slough (Cook Co)
COLSP	= Chain O' Lakes SP (Lake Co)	MTNWR	= Mark Twain NWR (Calhoun & Jersey Co)
CONWR	= Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co)	OB	= Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co)
Fermi	= Fermilab at Batavia (Du Page Co)	PMSP	= Pere Marquette SP (Jersey Co)
GCSP	= Giant City SP (Jackson Co)	RLCA	= Rice Lake CA (Fulton Co)
GLNTC	= Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)	Saug	= Sauget Marshes (St. Clair Co)
HL	= Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)	SL	= Skokie Lagoons Forest Preserve (Cook Co)
IBSP	= Illinois Beach SP (Lake Co)	SLSP	= Sangchris Lake SP (Sangamon & Christian Co)
JP	= Chicago's Jackson Park (Cook Co)	Spfld	= Springfield (Sangamon Co)
LCal	= Lake Calumet (Cook Co)	SLCA	= Spring Lake CA (Tazewell Co)
LChau	= Lake Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)	SRSF	= Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co)
LCNP	= La Salle County Nuclear Plant (La Salle Co)	SRSP	= Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co)
LRen	= Lake Renwick (Will Co)	UCCA	= Union County CA (Union Co)
LShel	= Lake Shelbyville (Moultrie & Shelby Co)	Wauk	= Waukegan (Lake Co)

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ad.	= adult	*	= documented record	est.	= estimated
pr.	= pair	m.ob.	= many observers	FP	= Forest Preserve
resp.	= respectively	CA	= Conservation Area	NP	= Nature Preserve
Co(s)	= County(ies)	NC	= Nature Center	FWA	= Fish and Wildlife Area
L	= Lake	SF	= State Forest	SP	= State Park
NWR	= National Wildlife Refuge	imm.	= immature	IORC	= Illinois Ornithological Records Committee
subad.	= subadult	**	= specimen record	IDNR	= Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources

A number in parentheses ( ) indicates the number of birds observed at a particular location or on a particular date. No number signifies single birds. Dates, counts, or sites underlined and bolded represent very early/late dates or counts unprecedented or extremely significant for the state or that region.

FIELD NOTES -Spring Migration 1996

Common Loon
EA: 16 Mar., Decatur (MD) and ClinL (MD, RC); 17 Mar., Lake Co (DJ et al). MC: 42, COLSP, 30 Mar. (DJ); 15, Chi, 4 Apr. (RH); 12, Spfld, 3-4 Apr. (DB, MD). LD: **9 June**, Piatt Co (MD); 19 May (ad.), Evanston (EW, JE).

Pied-billed Grebe
EA: 24 Feb. (3), LCal (JL); 24 Feb. (2), Will/Grundy Co (EW,JE,JM); 24 Feb., Piatt Co (RC). MC: 67, Spfld, 7 Apr. (DB); **63**, JP, 16 Apr. (PC); 50, CONWR, 10 Apr. (KM). LD: 22 May, Mercer Co (BB); 22 May, Spfld (DB); 14 May (2), St. Clair Co (KM).

Horned Grebe
EA: 15 Feb., Rockford (DW); 29 Feb., Spfld (DB). MC: 48, Spfld, 8 Apr. (MD); 25, CONWR, 1 Apr. (KM); 19, Rockford, 31 Mar. (DW). LD: **24 May**, Mercer Co (BB); 4 May, Shabbona L SP (DS); 22 Apr., Spfld (DB).

Red-necked Grebe
4-10 Apr., CONWR (BD, KM); 16-26 Apr., Sangamon Co (DB).

Eared Grebe
EA: 29 Mar., Decatur (MD); 13 Apr., Mt. Pulaski (Logan Co) (CA); 14 Apr., Loves Park (Winnebago Co) (*SSc). LD: **13-17 May** (2), HL (*DK, m.ob.); **12 May**, Heyworth (McLean Co) (MF, TBu); 4 May, LCNP (CMc, JMc); 23 Apr.-1 May, **JP** (PC,m.ob.)-1st spring record for JP.

Western Grebe
14-16 May, **HL** (JV,*DK, m.ob.); 19-20 May (2), **Hamilton** (Hancock Co) (ODe).

Little Blue Heron, Ryerson Conservation Area, Lake Co. May 1996. Photo by Margo Merrick.

American White Pelican
EA: 10 Mar., Banner Marsh (MW); 11-13 Mar., Spfld (DB). MC: **1750**, MTNWR, 16 Mar. (HW); 350, Union Co, 10 Apr. (KM); 140, RLCA, 25 Apr. (KR). LD: **24 May**, LChau (KR); 9-11 May, Shirland (DW)-2nd Winnebago Co record. Others: 4 May, **Wilmette**, (EW, JE)-1st spring record for area; 7-20 Apr., Baker's Lake (Cook Co) (JMd, m.ob.); 19 Apr., Alsip (Cook Co) (CF); 27 Apr., LCal (WM).

Greater White-fronted Goose, Lake Sangchris, Sangamon Co. 4 March 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Double-crested Cormorant
EA: 25 Feb., ClinL (RC); 16 Mar. (3), ML (KM); 20 Mar., Adams Co (KV). MC: **2700** (roost), Riverdale, 4 May (WM); 1000, Morgan Co, 10 Apr. (MW). LD: 2 June (2), Evanston (EW).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT
3 June, LCal (*JL). IL's 2nd spring record; first since '95.

American Bittern
EA: 29 Mar., OB (KM); 13 Apr.,Victoria (MB); 19 Apr., Chi (EW). MC: 3, OB, 2 May (VK); 3, Winnebago Co, 4 May (DW). LD: 18 May, Wataga (Knox Co) (MB); 17 May, Williamson Co (LS); 14 May, Chi (m.ob.); 10 May, Evanston (JGi).

Least Bittern
EA: 1 May, CCNWR (KM); 9 May, Fairmount (Vermilion Co) (JSi); 12 May, Arcola (RC). LD: **5 June**, Niantic (Macon Co) (MD); **2 June**, Evanston (EW); 29 May, Wataga (Knox Co) (MB). Others: 10 May, Evanston (JGi); 10 May, Chi (JPu).

Great Blue Heron
EA: 24 Feb., Des Plaines CA (EW, JE); 25 Feb., Spfld (DB); 26 Feb., Adams Co (MW). LD: 1 June (2), JP (PC). Others: 19, Spfld, 22 May (DB); 13, IBSP, 27 Apr. (EW).

Great Egret
EA: 15 Mar. (6), St. Clair Co (KM); 24 Mar., MS (WS); 27 Mar., Decatur (MD). MC: 82, LCal, 4 May (WM); 31, Jackson Co, 1 May (VK); 10, Sangamon Co, 25 Apr. (DB). LD: 5 June (5), Spfld (MD); 5 June, Evanston (JE).

Snowy Egret
EA: 3 Apr., Saug (KM); 10 Apr., HL (MW); 24 Apr.-6 May, **MArb** (*AH,JMe-ph). MC: 41, Saug, 29 May (DK); 7, Franklin Co, 15 May (LS); 3, Adams Co, 4 May (KV). Others: 4 May, LCal (MBa, WM); 21 May, Piatt Co (MD); 26 Apr., Charleston (RBr, BH)-2nd Coles Co record.

Little Blue Heron
EA: **31 Mar.**, Morgan County (MW); 3 Apr. (9), Saug (KM); 24 Apr., JP (PC). MC: 150+, Saug, 29 May (DK); 20, CCNWR, 27 Apr. (KM, DK); 14, Franklin Co, May 21 (LS). LD: 24 May, Piatt Co (RSa); 20 May, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB); 18 May, JP (PC et al-ph). Others: 4 May, Boone Co (ABr).

TRICOLORED HERON
25 Apr., Chi (Montrose) (*RH,m.ob.); 27 Apr., Chi (Montrose) (*EW,JE, m.ob.)-believed to be different from the 25 Apr. bird; 11 May-8 June, Fairmount City (St. Clair Co) (DBe,*DK, m.ob.); 16 May, Williamson Co, (LS,BD-ph) & 17 May, Franklin Co (LS) - same bird?; 19 May, LCal (*EW,JE,m.ob.-ph.); 22 May-1 June, CNC (LHi, *CW-ph, m.ob.); 24-28 May, Cisco (Piatt Co) (RSa, *m.ob.)-2nd Piatt Co record. Most ever reported in a single spring. IL's 14th to 21st spring records; first since '90.

Cattle Egret
EA: 24 Mar., Jackson Co (DK); 1 Apr., Mode (Shelby Co) (KF); 13 Apr. (5), LRen (CT). MC: 112, Franklin Co, 4 May (LS); 48, LShel, 15 May (KF); **23**, Vernon Hills, 23 May (VBe). LD: 28 May (6), Spfld (DB); 23 May, Wauk (DJ); 18 May, Vermilion Co (JSi).

Green Heron
EA: 13 Apr., ClinL (RC, EC et al); 16 Apr., JP (PC). MC: 26, JP, 12 May (PC).

Black-crowned Night-Heron
EA: 4 Mar.(12), HL (KM); 3 Apr.(17), LCal (WM); 11 Apr., SLSP (DB). MC: 1558, LCal, 4-5 May (WM).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
EA: 17 Mar, OB (BD); 12 Apr. (3), Urbana (m.ob.); 28 Apr., Powderhorn LFP (WM). MC: 4, OB, 24 Apr. (KM, MSe); 4, Farimount City (St. Clair Co), 13 May (DK). Others: 8 May (pr), Lockport (CA).

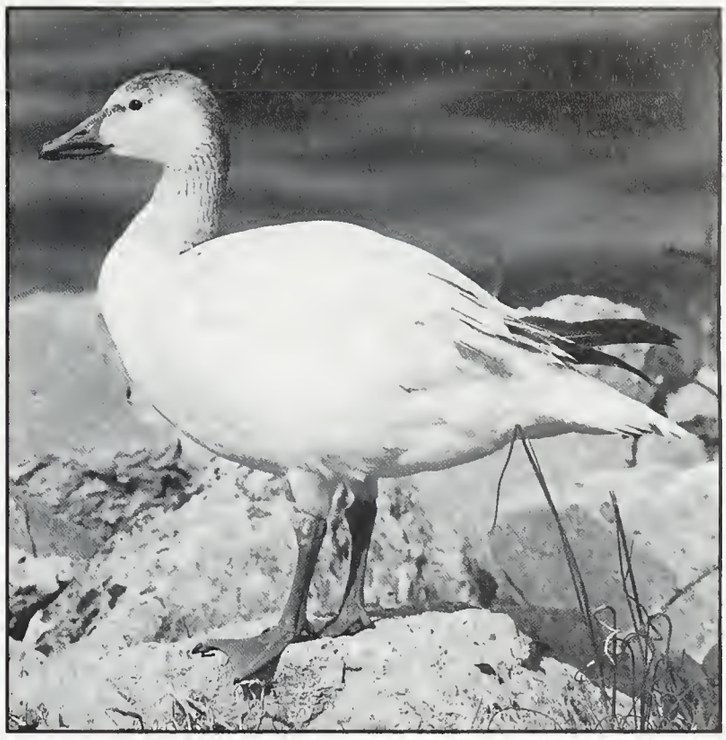
GLOSSY IBIS
25 May, LChau (KR, MD)-nonbreeding plumage; 28 May-8 June, Saug (*DK, *KM, m.ob.)-breeding plumage; 1 June (2), Saug (ASp-ph)-one in breeding plumage, one non-breeding. At least 15 spring records for IL; first since '93.

WHITE -FACED IBIS
25 May, LChau (KR, MD); 29 May, Saug (*DK,*KM); 2, Saug, 1 June (ASp-ph); **4**, St. Clair Co, 4 June (RSa); **8**, Saug, 8 June (DK)-record high counts for state. All breeding plumage adults. IL's 14th spring record; first since '95.

Tundra Swan
MC: 23, LChau, 29 Mar. (KR)-overwintering flock; 19, Shabonna L SP, 22 Mar. (RF). LD: **3 May**, Boone Co (DF, ABr).

Mute Swan
EA: 10 Feb. (8), JP (PC). MC: 11, St. Clair Co, 1 Mar. (DK); 8, w. Lake Co, 22 Mar. (EW); 8, as above. LD: 7 May, JP (PC, KC); 6 Apr. (3), Spfld (DB).

Ross' Goose, Sangamon Co. 7 April 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.



Snow Goose, immature. Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co. 27 April 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Greater White-fronted Goose
EA: 10 Feb. (2), ClinL (RC); 20 Feb. (109), LChau (KR). MC: **800**, Morgan Co, 15 Mar. (MW); **500**, SLSP, 14 Mar. (MD); **450**, ClinL, 9 Mar. (RC); **350**, UCCA, 4 Mar. (DK). Flocks of **200+** reported throughout Central IL. LD: **22 May**, LChau (KR); **20 May** (2), L Mendota (JH); 13 May (3), SLSP (DB). Others: 26-17 Apr., Plainfield (fide JF). These are record high counts.

Snow Goose
EA: 10 Feb. (7), ClinL (RC); 10 Feb., Spfld (DB). MC: **15,000+**, Harristown (Macon Co), 24 Feb. (MD); 6,000, Sangamon Co, 2 Mar. (DB); 3000, Washington Co, 24 Feb. (KM); 3000, Kinmundy (Marion Co), 25 Feb. (KM). LD: **2 June** (9), LChau (RBj, SBj); **31 May**, SLSP (DB); 10 May (15), Brown Co (MW). Many late reports.

Ross' Goose
EA: 20 Feb., SLSP (DB); 24 Feb. (5), ClinL (GL); 28 Feb., Scott Co (MW). MC: 10+, Harristown (Macon Co), 24 Feb. (MD); 6, Pulaski Co, 23 Mar. (KM); 5, SLSP, 4 Mar. (DB); 5, Sangamon Co, 24 Feb. (RC); 5, Morgan Co, 12 Mar. (MW). LD: 13 Apr. (4), Pulaski Co (KM). An apparent Snow/Ross' Hybrid: 8 Apr., Spfld (DO,DB-ph), the size of a Ross' Goose, but with a noticeable grin patch.

Canada Goose
EA: 10 Feb. (262), Evanston (EW). MC: 20,300, LChau, 12 Mar. (IDNR); 1150+, MNTP, 24 Feb. (EW,JE).

Wood Duck
EA: 15 Feb., Spfld (DB); 25 Feb. (4), OB (KM). MC: 4,302, LChau, 6 Apr. (RBj, SBj).

Green-winged Teal
EA: 10 Feb., Spfld (DB); 20 Feb., HL (KM); 27 Feb. (6), Lake Co (DJ). MC: 8000, LChau, 1 Apr. (IDNR); 1500, Rend L, 7 Apr. (BD). LD: 28 May, Knox Co (MB); 17 May, LChau (SBj,RBj); 17 May (male), IBSP (EW).

American Black Duck
EA: 24 Feb. (3), MNTP (JE, EW); 25 Feb. (50), ClinL (RC). MC: 1200, LShel, 3 Mar. (IDNR); 1042, LChau, 28 Mar. (RBj, SBj).

LD: 4 May, Clinton Co (KM, MSe); 4 May, Champaign Co (EC); 4 May (2), LShel (KF).

Mallard
MC: 100,000, ClinL, 9-10 Mar. (RC); 46,030, LChau, 28 Mar. (RBj, SBj).

Northern Pintail
EA: 1 Feb., Spfld (DB); 12 Feb. (40), HL (KM); 25 Feb. (19), Shabbona L SP (DS). MC: 10,000, LChau, 12 Mar. (IDNR). LD: 18 May, ClinL (MD); 11 May, Kankakee (SM); 3 May (2), LChau (RBj, SBj).

Blue-winged Teal
EA: 27 Feb., Spfld (DB); 4 Mar., HL (KM); 5 Mar., JP (PC)-earliest arrival for JP. MC: 1700, LChau, 1 Apr. (IDNR). LD: 2 June (2), JP (PC); 30 May, Spfld (DB); 28 May, HL (KM). Others: 126, Evanston, 4 May (EW,JE).

Cinnamon Teal
25 Mar-13 Apr., Morgan Co (MW, m.ob.). Blue-winged/Cinnamon Teal Hybrids: 30 Mar., Carl.L (*DK); 15 Apr., Chi (RH).

Northern Shoveler
EA: 23 Feb., Spfld (DB); 25 Feb., Lake Co (DJ). MC: 1898, LChau, 28 Mar. (RBj, SBj). LD: 2 June, LChau (RC); 26 May, Shelby Co (KF); 19 May, LCal (EW); 14 May, Saug (KM). Others: 80, Chi, 4 Apr. (EW).

Gadwall
EA: 12 Feb., HL (KM); 23 Feb., Spfld (DB); 24 Feb. (12), MNTP area (EW, JE). MC: 900, Banner Marsh, 18 Mar. (IDNR). LD: 29 May (pr), Knox Co (MB); 22 May, Spfld (DB).

EURASIAN WIGEON
31 Mar.(male), Fermi (*JPo,JSu, DKa,PK). IL's 24th spring record; first since '92.

American Wigeon
EA: 10 Feb., Spfld (DB); 12 Feb. (2), HL (KM). MC: 3000, Banner Marsh, 18 Mar. (IDNR); 1000, ClinL, 9 Mar. (RC). LD: 19 May (pr), Chi (EW); 4 May (2), Clinton Co (MSe, KM).

Canvasback
EA: 1 Feb., Spfld (DB); 12 Feb.(100), Madison Co (KM). MC: 26,000, Nauvoo, 8 Mar. (IDNR); 9,278 LChau, 28 Mar. (RBj, SBj). LD: 11 June (male), Decatur (MD); 11 May, Kankakee (SM). Others: 30, c. Lake Co, 22 Mar. (EW); 1 Apr.-**26 June** (female), Chi (Zoo area) (JPu,EW-ph).

Redhead
EA: 1 Feb., Spfld (DB); 10 Feb., ClinL (RC). MC: 1000, Ft. Madison (Upper Miss), 12 Mar. (IDNR). LD: 12 May (2), Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co) (DW); 11 May, ClinL (RC, EC); 10 May, PMSP (MW).

Ring-necked Duck
EA: 1 Feb., Spfld (DB); 19 Feb., Mercer Co (BB). MC: 10,500, Nauvoo, 26 Mar. (IDNR). LD: 9 June, Piatt Co (MD); 1 June, SLCA (KR); 29 May, Du Page Co (EW).

Greater Scaup
EA: 10 Feb. (5), Evanston (RD, m.ob.); 10 Feb., ClinL (RC). MC: 1790, L Michigan, 5 Apr. (EW). LD: 19 May (4), Evanston (EW, JE); 4 May (7), Decatur (MD).

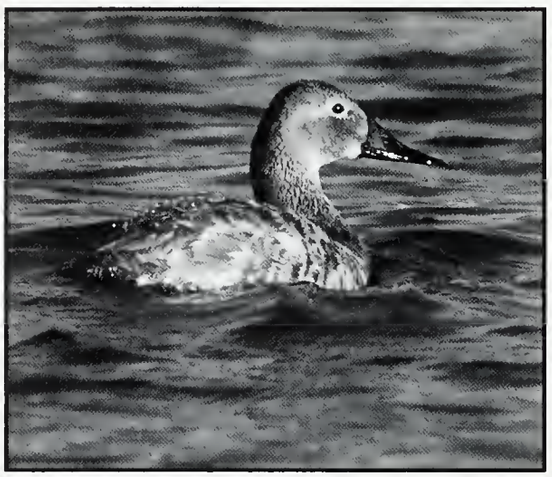
Lesser Scaup
EA: 1 Feb., Spfld (DB); 10 Feb., JP (PC). MC: 10,500, Nauvoo, 1 Apr. (IDNR); 2,708, LChau, 6 Apr. (RBj, SBj). LD: 1 June (4), Shabonna L SP (RF); 22 May, Mercer Co (BB); 21 May, PMSP (MW).

Harlequin Duck
29 Mar -10 Apr., Lake Forest (m.ob.); 23 Mar. (2), JP (*PC).

Oldsquaw
17 Apr.(male), Spfld (DB); 22 Apr. (female), Spfld (DB); **1-9 May**, CCNWR (KM, *DKv, SB).

Black Scoter
10 Apr. (3), Spfld (MD); 6 & 17 Apr. (2), Chi (RH).

Surf Scoter
EA: 2 Apr., Spfld (DB); 15 Apr. (2), Decatur (MD); 23 Apr., CONWR (BD). MC: 12, JP, 4 Apr. (PC); 4, Spfld, 25 Apr. (DB). LD: **29 May** (female), SLCA (KR); 12 May, L Mendota (JH); 4 May, Lansing (DL).



Canvasback, female, Lincoln Park, Cook Co. 12 May 1996. Photo by Eric Walters.

White-winged Scoter
EA: 25 Feb., Clin L (RC). Others: 23 Mar. (2), Mahomet (RC) & 30 Mar. (EC); 7 Apr., Chi (RH).

Common Goldeneye
MC: 2000, Duck Creek (Fulton Co), 12 Mar. (IDNR). LD: 13 May, Lake Forest (SM); 8 May, McHenry Co (RBa); 3 May, Victoria (MB).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE
5 Mar.(male), ClinL (*EKe,JWa); 9 Mar. (female), ClinL (*MD,*DK,*RC); 20 Mar. (1st yr male), Chi (Montrose) (*RH).

Bufflehead
EA: 9 Feb. (8), JP (PC); 25 Feb. (5), ClinL (RC). MC: **126**, Palos, 10 Apr. (WS). LD: 17 May, JP (PC); 4 May, Decatur (MD); 4 May (3), LShel (KF).

Hooded Merganser
EA: 1 Feb., Spfld (DB); 19 Feb., (3), Clinton Co (KM); 25 Feb. (30), Palos (WS). MC: 300+, ClinL, 9-10 Mar. (RC); 75, Fulton Co, 10 Mar. (MW); 52, Spfld, 11 Mar. (DB). LD: 11 June, JP (PC); 25 May, SL (EW); 22 May (2), Spfld (DB); 16 May, Arcola (RC).

Common Merganser
EA: 16 Feb. (28), Wauk (EW). MC: 4000, Nauvoo, 12 Mar. (IDNR); 1500, ClinL, 25 Feb. (RC). LD: 4 May, Champaign Co (EC); 4 May, Brown Co (MW); 4 May, Knox Co (MB).

Red-breasted Merganser
EA: 25 Feb. (4), ClinL (RC); 25 Feb., Spfld (DB). MC: 830, L Michigan, 5 Apr. (EW); 150, Spfld, 1 Apr. (DB). LD: 31 May, Shabonna L SP (RF); 29 May, Vermilion Co (DI); 17 May, Heyworth (McLean Co) (MF).

Ruddy Duck
EA: 19 Feb. (2), CONWR (KM); 22 Feb., Spfld (DB); 5 Mar., Morgan Co (MW). MC: 610, LChau, 6 Apr. (RBj, SBj); 400, Spfld, 1 Apr. (DB); 290, Lake Co, 15 Apr. (DJ); 220, Union Co, 29 Mar. (KM). LD: 2 June, Riverdale (Cook Co) (WM); 30 May, Heyworth (McLean Co) (MF, TBu).

Black Vulture
MC: 30, Johnson Co, 20 Apr. (MD, KM, DK)-one flock feeding on a dead cow.

Turkey Vulture
EA: 25 Feb. (30), Pike Co (MW); 1 Mar., Adams Co (KV); 12 Mar., Cook Co (CT). MC: 32, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB); 28, Spfld, 24 Mar. (DB); 16, sw. Cook Co, 18 May (CT). LD: 2 June,

Evanston (JE); 2 June, JP (PC); 28 May (11), Spfld (DB).

Osprey
EA: 3 Apr., Spfld (DB); 10 Apr., Jackson Co (KM); 13 Apr., Woodford Co (RF). LD: 28 May, Spfld (DB).

Mississippi Kite
EA: 1 May (2), UCCA (KM). Others: 18 May (2), **Carl.L** (*DK, *MSe, KM)-1st Clinton Co record.

Bald Eagle
MC: 21, Spoon L (Knox Co), 24 Feb. (MB); 12, LChau, 22 Mar. (RBj, SBj); 3, Palos, 2-13 Mar. (RHn, WS); LD: 26 May, LChau (RBj, SBj); 24 May, Spfld (DB); 18 May (ad.), **Evanston** (EW-ph)-first spring record for Evanston; 7 May (2), LShel (KF). Others: 11 Apr., **Lake Forest** (JPo).

Northern Harrier
MC: 4, Pulaski Co, 29 Mar. (KM); 2, Spfld, 24 Mar. & 13 Apr. (DB). LD: 29 May (male), Spfld (DB); 28 May (female), Victoria (MB); 26 May (female), SRSF (KR); 19 May (female), Chi (JE, EW).

Sharp-shinned Hawk
EA: 3 Mar., Spfld (DB); 22 Mar., Wauk (EW). MC: 4, JP, 25 Apr. (PC); 3, Spfld, 21 Apr. & 26 Apr. (DB). LD: **19 May**, Urbana (RC et al); **19 May**, Vermilion Co (JSi); 12 May, JP (PC).

Cooper's Hawk
EA: 10 Feb., Spfld (DB); 5 Mar., JP (KC); 13 Mar. (female), Evanston (EW). MC: 3, JP, 6 & 9 Mar. (PC, KC); 2, Spfld, 17 Mar. & 12 Apr. (DB). LD: 5 June, JP (PC); 26 May, Urbana (RC, EC); 18 May, Evanston (EW).

Northern Goshawk
LD: 20 Mar. (imm), Carl.L (DK)-very far south in a nonflight yr.

Red-shouldered Hawk
EA: 24 Mar., Spfld (DB); 30 Mar., Calhoun Co (MW). MC: 2, Piatt/Champaign Co, 11 May (RC, EC). LD: 26 May, Freeport (Stephenson Co) (DW); 14 May, CNC (CF).

Broad-winged Hawk
EA: 10 Apr., Jackson Co (KM); 12 Apr., Adams Co (KV). MC: 30, Spfld, 25 Apr. (DB); 12, Evanston, 18 May (EW); 6, GCSP, 19 Apr. (RC). LD: 9 June, PMSP (MW); 22 May, Spfld (DB).

Red-tailed Hawk
MC: 30, Spfld, 24 Mar. (DB). LD: 26 Apr., Chi (EW). Harlan's race: 10 Mar., UCCA (BD).

Rough-legged Hawk
MC: 2, Pulaski Co, 16 Mar. (KM). LD: **11 May**, IBSP (RBa et al); 4 May, LCal (WM); 4 May, Shabbona L SP (DeKalb Co) (RF, KFl).

Golden Eagle
LD: 1 Apr., OB (KM); 31 Mar., Jackson Co (DK). Others: 12 Mar., Sanganois CA (Mason Co) (KR); 8 Mar., UCCA (BD, KM); 1 Mar., Adams Co (KV) — all immature.

American Kestrel
MC: 11, Spfld, 1 Mar. (DB); 11, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF).

Merlin
EA: 16 Mar., ClinL (RC); 17 Mar., Spfld (DB). LD: 15 May, JP (DA, KC); 11 May, Lake Co (SM). Others: 10 Apr. (female), Chi (KHi, m.ob.); 13 Apr., UCCA (DK, KM)

Peregrine Falcon
EA: 13 Apr., Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB); 27-28 Apr., Pulaski Co (DK, KM); 27 Apr., Lodge P (Piatt Co) (RC). MC: 4, Chi, 28 Apr. (JE). LD: 26 May, LChau (KR, MB); 15 May, Sangamon Co (DB); 14 May, Urbana (MD). Others: 4 May, Nw. Du Page Co (JPo).

Prairie Falcon
27 Apr., **IBSP** (*EW, *JE); 28 Apr., **Homer L** (Champaign Co) (*RC).

Gray Partridge
4 May (6), DeKalb Co (RF, KFl).

Greater Prairie-Chicken
27 Mar.-15 Apr. (9), Kinmundy (m.ob.).

Wild Turkey
The spring harvest was a record 7234 birds; the 648 in JoDaviess was the highest Co (fide EW).

Northern Bobwhite
MC: 10, Spfld, 13 Mar. (DB). Few reports, even S. IL observers noted scarcity; perhaps due to cold weather.

Yellow Rail
6 Apr., ClinL (RC); 10 May, **Chi** (m.ob.-ph).

King Rail
EA: 3 Apr., Saug (DK); 28 Apr., Powerhorn L Marsh (Cook Co) (WM). MC: 2, Saline Co, 6 May (DK, KM). LD: 5 June, Niantic (Macon Co)(MD); 27 May, Jackson Co (BD). Others: 19 May, Spfld (**DB); 18 May, LCal (JL); 4 May, IBSP (m.ob.).

Virginia Rail
EA: 13 Apr., Vermilion Co (CMc, JMc, SB); 21 Apr., ML (RC);

King Rail, Montrose Harbor, Cook Co. 18 May 1996. Photo by Robert Hughes.

21 Apr., Arcola (RC). MC: 6, MP, 7 May (KR); 4, ClinL, 11 May (RC, EC); 4, Pulaski Co, 27 Apr. (KM, DK). LD: 17 May, Fairmount (Vermilion Co) (JSi); 15 May, ClinL (MD).

Sora
EA: 30 Mar., ClinL (RC); 4 Apr., ML (DK); 17 Apr. (2), Boone Co (ABr). MC: 30, Arcola, 21 Apr. (RC); 20, ML, 21 Apr. (KM et al); 15, MP, 14 May (KR, MB); 15, SLSP, 1 May & 9 May (DB); 12, Chi, 10 May (RB,JPu). LD: 21 May (2), Spfld (DB).

Common Moorhen
EA: 22-23 Apr., Madison Co (DK, KM); 2 May , Will Co (CA). MC: 6, Jackson Co, 1 June (BD). LD: 20-26 May, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB); 15 May, Cass Co (KV); 12-13 May, **Evanston** (EW)- one on a busy road was a first for the area.

American Coot
EA: 9 Feb., M.Arb (EW). MC: 7,036, LChau, 12 Apr. (SBj); 3000, Decatur, 6 Apr. (MD); 1000, Round Lake, 30 Mar. (DJ).

Sandhill Crane
EA: 24 Feb., **CONWR** (KM); 26 Feb. (9), Du Page Co (JPo). MC: 817, Palatine, 12 Mar. (CF); 100, Boone Co, 14 Mar. (ABr);

100, McHenry Co, 14 Mar. (VK). LD: 23 May, Vermilion Co (*JSi). Others: 30 Mar. (11), Charleston (BH); 15 Mar. (4), Champaign Co (RC); 12 Mar. (2), **LChau** (KR).

Black-bellied Plover
EA: 2 May (3), LChau (KR); 7 May, Scott Co (MW); 8 May (3), Evanston (EW). MC: 19, Decatur, 16 May (MD); 13, Winnebago Co, 16 May (DW). LD: 28 May (5), Spfld (DB); 26 May (2), DeKalb Co (DS).

American Golden-Plover
EA: 15 Mar., Stewardson (Shelby Co)(KF); 23 Mar. (85), Pulaski Co (KM); 28 Mar. Glencoe (EW). MC: 8000+, Arcola, 21 Apr. (RC); 4000, Vermilion Co, 6 May (DI); 2000+, Stewardson (Shelby Co), 20 Apr. (KF). LD: 30 May, Macon Co (MD); 19 May (43), Pecatonia (Winnebago Co)(DW).

Piping Plover, Waukegan Beach, Lake Co. 24 April 1996. Photo by Eric Walters.

Semipalmated Plover
EA: 17 Apr. (2), Union Co (KM); 19 Apr., LChau (RBj, SBj); 26 Apr., Chi (EW). MC: 65, Franklin Co, 21 May (LS); 40, Decatur, 19 May (MD); 25, McHenry Co, 22 May (RBa). LD: 29 May, Sand L (Mason Co) (KR); 28 May (7), Piatt Co (DI); 28 May (3), Decatur (MD).

Piping Plover
EA: 23 Apr. **(3)**, LChau (KR); 24 Apr., Wauk (JSo,m.ob.-ph); 3 May, GLNTC (EW).

Killdeer
MC: 300+, Chi, 26 Mar. (JP); 300+, Wilmette, 25 Mar. (GR). LD: 16 May (14), Evanston (EW). Large flights were seen along L Michigan between 24-31 Mar.; one group was feeding on insects in the snow.

Black-necked Stilt
1 May, **CCNWR** (KM). 4 May, **Clinton Co** (KM,*DK, MSe); 21 May, **Cass Co** (MW, TWa); 21-22 May, **LChau** (KR, MB); 27 May (2), **Jackson Co** (BD).

American Avocet
EA: **19 Apr. (16)**, **Palos** (WS); 24 Apr., Wauk (JSo,m.ob.); 24 Apr., GLNTC (EW-ph.)-different than Wauk one; 27 Apr., SLSP (DB); 27 Apr., LChau (TP); 30 Apr. (2), CONWR (BD). MC: **16**, as above; 12, JP, 28 Apr. (PC); 4, LChau, 29 Apr. (KR). LD: 21 May, LChau (KR); 11 May (3), **Knox Co** (*CRo, MB)-1st Knox Co record.

Greater Yellowlegs
EA: 16 Mar. (2), Decatur (MD); 20 Mar., Adams Co (KV). MC: 261, LChau, 12 Apr. (RBj, SBj); 52, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 30 May, Sangamon Co (DB); 24 May, Sand L (Mason Co) (KR).

Lesser Yellowlegs
EA: **27 Feb.**, Spfld (DB); 4 Mar., Union Co (DK); 28 Mar., Wilmette (EW). MC: 1705, LChau, 19 Apr. (RBj, SBj); 400, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 29 May, LChau (KR); 27 May, Spfld (DB).

Solitary Sandpiper
EA: 27 Mar., Decatur (MD); 29 Mar., Union Co (KM). MC: 20, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM); 12, Sangamon Co, 12 May (DB). LD: 18 May, Carl.L (KM, DK, MSe); 18 May, Spfld (DB).

Willet
EA: 20 Apr., Boone Co (ABr); 22 Apr. (3), JP (PC); 22 Apr., Mason Co (MW). MC: **44**, Wauk, 4 May (RH); **43**, Spfld, 26 Apr. (DB-ph); 19, Carl.L, 26 Apr. (VK); 17, Evergreen L (McLean Co) (EM). LD: 21 May, Chi (JPu); 18 May, Evanston (EW-ph.); 14 May, Vermilion Co (DI). Others: 25 Apr. (8), Carl.L (DK); 28 Apr., **Springbrook Prairie** (Du Page Co) (JSu); 4 May (7), Shabbona L SP (RF); 10 May (8), Chi (RB). Excellent number of reports statewide.

Spotted Sandpiper
EA: 2 Apr., Mason Co (RBj, SBj); 15 Apr., ML (KM); 18 Apr. (2), JP (PC). MC: 18, Union Co, 27 Apr. (KM, DK); 12, Spfld, 4 & 22 May (DB). LD: 2 June (2), JP (PC); 30 May, MP (KR); 28 May (3), HL (KM).

Upland Sandpiper
EA: 13 Apr., Naperville (JSu); 19 Apr., SLSP (DB); 24 Apr. (3), Glenview (EW). MC: 11, O'Hare Airport, 4 May (RB); 3, SLSP, 1 May (DB). LD: 29 May, Vermilion Co (DI); 14 May, Fulton Co (KR, MB). Others: 10 May, Rockford (DW)-in his front yard!

American Avocet, Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Lake Co. 24 April 1996. Photo by Eric Walters.

Whimbrel
EA: **4 May**, JP/Evanston/Wauk (PC/EW,JE/RH)-same bird moving north in early am.. Others: 27 May, **Jackson Co** (BD), about the 6th southern IL record.

Hudsonian Godwit
EA: 23 Apr. (4), RLCA (KR); 7 May, Morgan Co (MW). MC: 10, Niantic (Macon Co), 15 May (MD); 1-4, LChau, 10-22 May (KR); 2, Vermilion Co, 19 May (DI); 2, Decatur, 18 May (MD). LD: 24 May (2), Cisco (Piatt Co) (RC); 19 May, Pecatonia (Winnebago Co) (DW); 15 May, Henderson Co (KV).

Marbled Godwit
EA: 15 Apr. (11), CONWR (BD); 16 Apr., Decatur (RSa, MD); 27 Apr., Knox Co (MB). MC: 11, as above. LD: 20 May, Chi (RH); 13 May, Madison Co (*DK, KM, m.ob.)-injured bird present for several weeks & finally captured and taken to rehab. **Others:** 7 May, Wauk (LB fide RB); 1 May, Vermilion Co (DI)-1st Vermilion Co record.

Ruddy Turnstone
EA: 13 May, HL (DK); 14-15 May, Vermilion Co (DI); 14 May (5), Chi (JL, GW). MC: 12, LChau, 21 May (KR, MB); 12, Wauk, 17 May (EW, DJ, et al); 5, HL, 27 May (DK). LD: 2 June (3), Wilmette (JE); 30 May (2), LChau (KR); 27 May (2), Jackson Co (BD).

Red Knot
EA: 24 May (2), Chi (RH).

Sanderling
EA: **26 Apr.**, Chi (EW); **26 Apr.**, LChau (KR). MC: 30, LChau, 26 May (KR, MB); 26, IBSP/Wauk, 17 May (EW, DJ et al); 10, Vermilion Co (DI); 3-5, HL, 10-13 May (KM, DK); LD: 7 June (3), JP (PC).

Semipalmated Sandpiper
EA: **22 Apr.**, Morgan Co (MW); 25 Apr. (10), LChau (KR); 4

May, Mercer Co (BB). MC: 400, LChau, 22 May (KR); 120, Spfld, 15 May (DB). LD: 31 May (23), Jackson Co (BD).

Western Sandpiper
EA: 1 May, Rochester (Sangamon Co) (DB). MC: 3, Spfld, 15 May (DB). LD: 18 May, Decatur (MD); 16 May, Pesotum, (Champaign Co)(RC)

Least Sandpiper
EA: **29 Mar.**, Sand L (Mason Co) (KR); 5 Apr. (2), Union Co (KM); 6 Apr., Mahomet (RC). MC: 100, Decatur, 15 May (MD); 53, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 22 May (15), Spfld (DB).

White-rumped Sandpiper
EA: 1 May (3), CCNWR (KM); 2 May (2), LChau (KR). MC: 25, LChau, 22 May (KR); 24, Spfld, 15 May (DB). LD: 3 June (8), Decatur (MD); 25 May (13), Fairmount City (St. Clair Co) (KM, DK). Others: 19 May, Wauk & Wadsworth (EW,DJ et al).

Baird's Sandpiper
EA: 27 Mar., SLSP (DB); 3 Apr. (3), LChau (KR); 21 Apr., nw. White Co (EW). MC: 6, Franklin Co, 16 May (LS); 5, Cass Co, 2 May (KR). LD: 31 May, Jackson Co (BD).

Pectoral Sandpiper
EA: **13 Mar.** (2), MS (WS); 16 Mar. (14), Decatur (MD); 16 Mar. (3), Pulaski Co (KM); 28 Mar. (12), Wilmette (EW). MC: **4,675**, LChau, 12 Apr. (RBj, SBj); 247, nw. Will Co (fide JF). LD: 3 June, Decatur (MD); 30 May, St. Clair Co (KM); 26 May, Stewardson (Shelby Co) (KF).

Dunlin
EA: 29 Mar., Union Co (KM); 8 Apr., Morgan Co (MW). MC: 100, LChau, 25 May (KR); 90, Spfld, 17 May (DB); 22, Franklin Co, 16 May (LS). LD: 28 May (3), Spfld (DB); 26 May (8), DeKalb Co (DS).

Stilt Sandpiper
EA: 19 Apr (3), CCNWR (KM); 10 May, LChau (KR); 17 May (2), Wadsworth (EW, DJ et al). MC: 8, CCNWR, 27 Apr. (KM, DK). LD: 23 May (5), LChau (KR); 22 May, Prairie View (Cook Co) (JMd). Others; 21 May, Piatt Co (MD); 15-16 May, Franklin Co (LS).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER
16 May, Boone Co (*DF,ABr). IL's 5th spring record; first since '87.

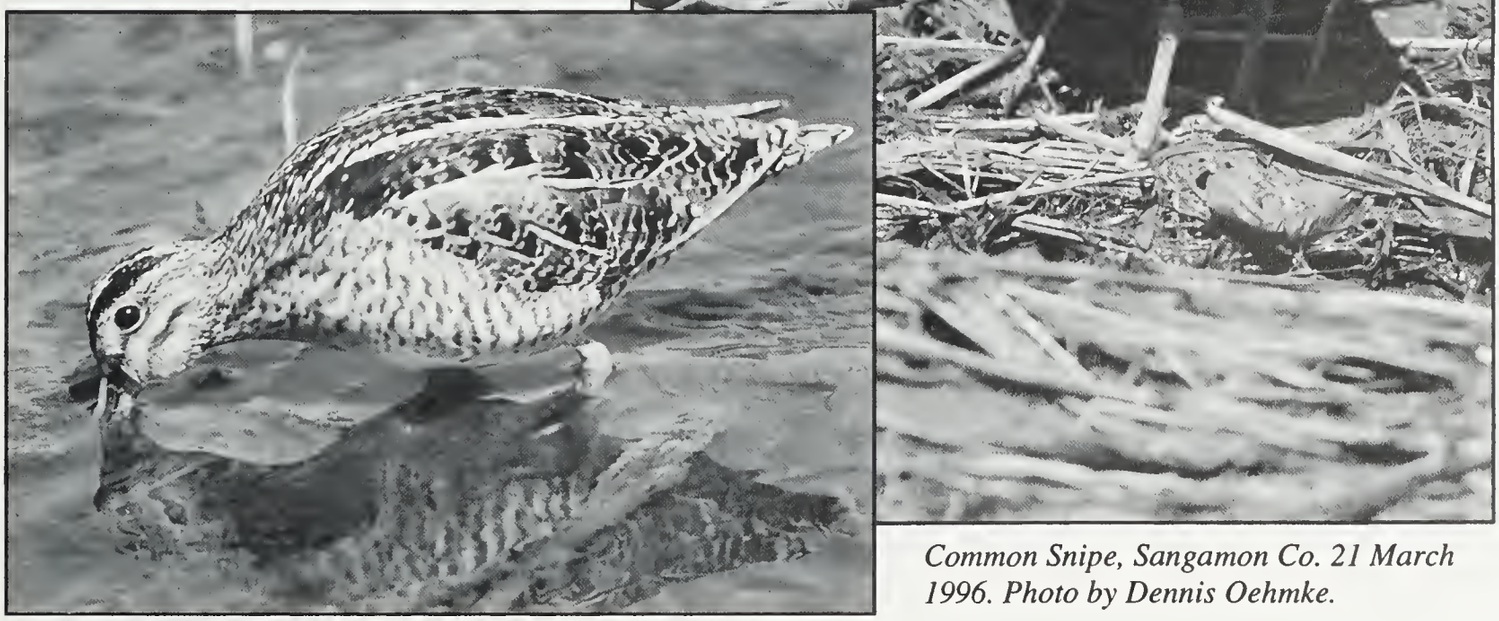
RUFF
2 May (a Reeve), LChau (KR). IL's 23rd spring record; first since '95.

Short-billed Dowitcher
EA: 29 Apr. (2), Sand L (Mason Co) (KR); 1 May, Danville (DI); 4 May, Pecatonia (Winnebago Co) (DW). MC: **125**, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM); 73, Spfld, 15 May (DB); 36, Franklin Co, 14 May (LS). LD: 27 May (2), Madison Co (DK); 22 May, LChau (KR); 17 May (2), Wadsworth (EW et al); 16 May (23), Douglas Co (RC).

Long-billed Dowitcher
EA: 30 Mar., Clinton Co (DK); 3 Apr. (2), LChau (KR). MC: 17, LChau, 3 May (RBj,SBj); 6, CCNWR, 20 Apr. (DK). LD: 12 May, Arcola (RC); 7 May, Morgan Co (MW); 6 May (4), CCNWR (KM,DK).

Common Snipe
EA: **15 Feb.**, Tazewell Co (KR); 21 Feb., Spfld (DB); 25 Feb., OB (KM). MC: **666**, LChau, 12 Apr. (RBj SBj); 78, CCNWR, 10 Apr. (KM); 68, McHenry Co, 10 Apr. (RBa). LD: 24 May, MP (KR); 16 May, Spfld (DB). Highest count ever for IL.

American Woodcock
EA: 19 Feb. (3), CONWR (KM); 25 Feb., Shelby Co (KF); 27 Feb., Knox Co (MB). MC: 30, Carl.L, 3 Mar. (DK); 18, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB). LD: 1 June, Chi (Montrose) (GW)-post breeding migrant?.



Common Snipe, Sangamon Co. 21 March 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Wilson's Phalarope
EA: 15 Apr., Rochester (Sangamon Co) (DB); 21 Apr., Arcola (RC). MC: **18**, LChau, 2 May (KR); 11, Pulaski Co, 24 Apr. (KM, MSe); 6, Clinton Co, 26 Apr. (VK). LD: 25 May, LChau (KR); 22 May, Spfld (DB). Others: 3 May (5), DeKalb Co (RF,KFl); 4 May (pr.), Fermi (PK); 12 May, Galesburg (MB).

Red-necked Phalarope
14-16 May (2), Spfld (DB); 21 May (2), LChau (KR, MB).

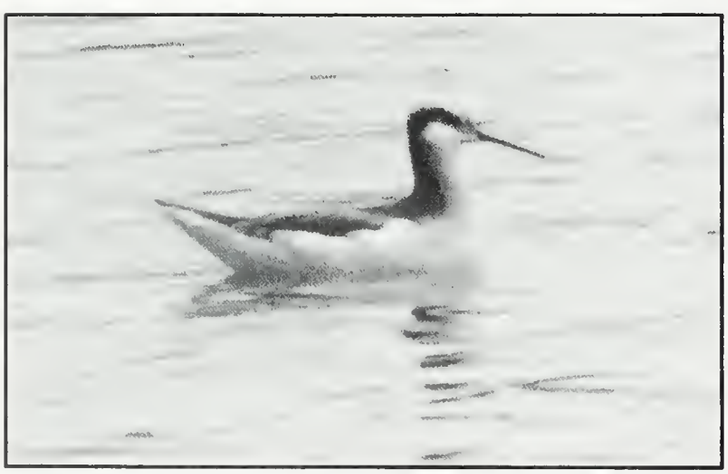
Laughing Gull
EA: 10 Apr. (1st yr), Madison Co (DK,MW); 27 Apr. (ad), Chi (GW). MC: 3, Spoon L (Knox Co), 18 May (MB)-1st Knox Co record; 2, Chi, 12 May (LCa). LD: 28 May (subad), JP (PC); 27-28 May (ad), HL (DK, KM); 25 May, Jackson Co (BD). Others: 4 May (subad), Wauk (m.ob.); 7-8 May (ad), Spfld (DB, MD); 4 May (ad), Decatur (MD); 4 May, Clinton Co (KM); 11 May (ad), LChau (KR); 17 May (ad.), Wauk (EW,DJ et al).

Franklin's Gull
EA: 23 Mar., Chi (EW); 25 Mar., SLSP (DB); 9 Apr. (5), Madison Co (DK). MC: 38, LChau, 20-25 May (KR); 22, Spfld, 16 May (DB); 7, Knox Co, 18 May (MB). LD: 10 June, Peoria Co (MW); 29 May (19), Spfld (DB). Others: 4, Chi, 27&28 Apr. (EW); 23 May (2), Wauk (DD).

Franklin's Gull, Gillson Park, Wilmette, Cook Co. 18 April 1996. Photo by Eric Walters.

Bonaparte's Gull
EA: 25 Feb., Spfld (DB); 15 Mar., Morgan Co (MW); 16 Mar. (12), Decatur (MD); 28 Mar. (5), Wilmette (EW). MC: **13,100**, Lake Co lakefront, 24 Apr. & 11,000, 27 Apr. (EW); 1700, 1 Apr., CONWR (KM). LD: **3 June** (3, 1 ad), Wilmette (JE). Several hundred were reported on all the major downstate lakes during April; 1000+ at spots on a few days along L Michigan.

MEW GULL
22 Mar. (ad), Chi (Montrose) (*RH-ph,m.ob.); 23 Mar.(ad), ClinL (*RC); 3 Apr.(ad), Chi (Montrose) (RH); **23 May** (ad), Spfld (*DB)-latest departure date recorded for the species. IL's 7th spring record; first since '93.



Wilson's Phalarope, Rochester, Sangamon Co. 27 April 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Ring-billed Gull
MC: **80,000**, 16 Mar., Carl.L (DK); **17,065**, 5 Apr., L Michigan (EW).

Thayer's Gull, first year, Belmont Harbor, Cook Co., mid April 1996. Photo by Robert Hughes.

CALIFORNIA GULL
2 Apr. (ad), Chi (Montrose) (*RH-ph). IL's 7th spring record; first since '94.

Herring Gull
MC: **4400**, L Michigan, 5 Apr. (EW). LD: **28 May** (2 imm), Spfld (DB).

Thayer's Gull
MC: 6, L Michigan, 5 Apr. (RH, EW). LD: 7 May (ad), Wauk (LB fide EW); 4 May (2), L Michigan (JPu, JL).

Iceland Gull
LD: 1 May (2nd yr), Chi (DM). Others: 5 Apr. (ad. non-Kumlein's), Winthrop Harbor (EW); 5 Apr. (1st summer), Chi (RH); 4 Apr. (2nd summer), Evanston (EW).

Lesser Black-backed Gull
EA: 11-21 Mar. (ad), Spfld (DB, MD); 23 Mar.(1st yr), Decatur (MD); 24-25 Mar. (3rd yr), Spfld (DB). MC: 2 (ad), Winthrop Harbor, 22 Mar. (EW). LD: 11 May (3rd yr), Chi (JM); 11 Apr. (ad), Evanston (EW); 7 Apr. (ad), Chi (JPu, JL).

Glaucous Gull
MC: **17** (14 1st summer, 3 ad.), L Michigan, 5 Apr. (EW). LD: 11 May (imm), Chi (JM); 7 May (1st yr), Evanston (EW). Others: 3 (2 ad.), Winthrop Harbor, 22 Mar. (EW); 2, Du Page Co, 9 Mar. (JPo).

Great Black-backed Gull
MC: **11** (all 1st summer), L Michigan, 5 Apr. (EW,DM). LD: **30 May** (3-all 1st summer), JP (PC).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE
2 Feb.-6 Apr. (imm), Alton (DK, m.ob.); 28 Mar. (imm), Chi (Montrose) (JPu,RH). IL's 6th spring record; first since '93.

Caspian Tern
EA: 4 Apr., Spfld (MD); 11 Apr., Chi (JPu); 25 Apr. (3), Carl.L (DK). MC: **115+**, Lake Co, 17 May (EW, DJ); 68, Evanston, 4 May (EW); 38, LChau, May 11 (KR). LD: 13 June (4), JP (PC); 2 June(3), LChau (RC); 29 May, Spfld (DB).

Common Tern
EA: **24 Apr.**, GLNTC (EW)-with Forster's; **24 Apr**. (4), RLCA (KR); 30 Apr. (2), Spfld (DB). MC: 1050+, Lake Co, 17 May (EW et al); 132, Evanston, 4 May (EW)-an early peak; **75**, Spfld, 13 May (DB); **60**, ClinL, 11 May (RC, EC). LD: 30 May, LChau (KR); 24 May, Spfld (DB); 15 May (6), McLean Co (MF).

Forster's Tern
EA: 12 Apr., ML (KM); 15 Apr. (2), Spfld (DB, MD); 18 Apr.,

JP (PC). MC: 290, Chi, 4 May (JL); 38, LShel, 4 May (KF); 18, LChau, 10 May (RBj, SBj). LD: 10 June, Chi (RH); 2 June, LChau (RC).

Least Tern
MC: **20+**, Jackson Co, 23 May (BD). LD: 2 June(2), LChau (RC). Others: 18 May, **Knox Co** (MB)-1st Knox Co record.

Black Tern
EA: 2 May, Spfld (DB); 4 May (5), Evanston (JE, EW). MC: 100, LChau , 11 May (KR); 80, HL, 10 May (KM); 70, Spfld, 12 May (DB, MD). LD: 2 June (20), LChau (RC); 28 May (3), Spfld (DB).

Mourning Dove
Others: 36,Evanston, 11 Apr. (EW).

Black-billed Cuckoo
EA: 6 May, SLSP (DB); 10 May, PMSP (MW); 10 May, Chi (DSt). MC: 3, Urbana, 26 May (RC); 2, Chi, 16 & 19 May (EW & JL). LD: 13 June, JP (PC); 10 June, Chi (RH). Many observers noted scarcity and late arrival of both cuckoos.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo
EA: 2 May, Mode (Shelby Co) (KF); 6 May, Saline Co (DK, KM); 19 May, Chi (JE,EW). MC: 5, Mackinaw Valley FWA (Tazewell Co), 16 May (MF); 5, Allerton Park (Piatt Co) 30 May (MD). LD: 12 June, JP (KC); 10 June, Chi (RH).

Barn Owl
1 May, **Durand** (Winnebago Co) (LJ fide DW); two other reports from known So. IL sites.

Long-eared Owl
LD: 25 Apr., Chi (Grant Park) (DSt); 23 Apr., Chi (**LHo); 12 Apr., Chi (Montrose) (EW-ph); 3 Apr., Orland Park (MGu).

Short-eared Owl
MC: 20+, Franklin Co, 11 Mar. (LS). LD: **10 May**, Chi (Montrose) (fide RB); 27 Apr., Fermi (PK); 26 Apr. (2), Chi (RH, EW); 26 Apr., Palatine (CF); 24 Apr., Wauk (EW, DJ); 23 Apr., Clinton Co (MSe). Others: 1 Apr. (3), Glenview (EW)-last day of overwintering birds.

Barred Owl
21 April, Mermet Conservation Area (EW).

Northern Saw-whet Owl
9 Mar., Allerton Park (Piatt Co) (DK)-overwintered; 9-30 Mar., Clinton Co (MSe); 5 Apr., Chi (Water Tower) (CWi).

Common Nighthawk
EA: 27 Apr., CONWR (DK, KM); 3 May, Tazewell Co (SBj); 4 May, Joliet (CA). MC: 100, MS, 28 May (WS); 60, Spfld, 12 May (DB); 15, Madison Co, 16 May (KM).

Chuck-will's-widow
EA: 20 Apr., GCSP (RC); 2 May, SRSF (RBj, SBj). MC: 4, Saline Co, May 6, (KM, DK). LD: 31 May, Quiver Creek (Mason Co) (KR); 18 May, **Sugar River FP** (Winnebago Co) (ABr, JDo fide DW); 12 May, **Spfld** (DB)-seen flying over lake at dusk

Whip-poor-will
EA: 17 Apr.(15), CONWR (KM); 21 Apr., JP (PC); 21 Apr., Spfld (DB). MC: 15, CONWR, 27 Apr. (KM, DK); 14, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF); 5, Winnebago Co, 29 May (DW). Others: 10 May (2), Chi (m.ob.)

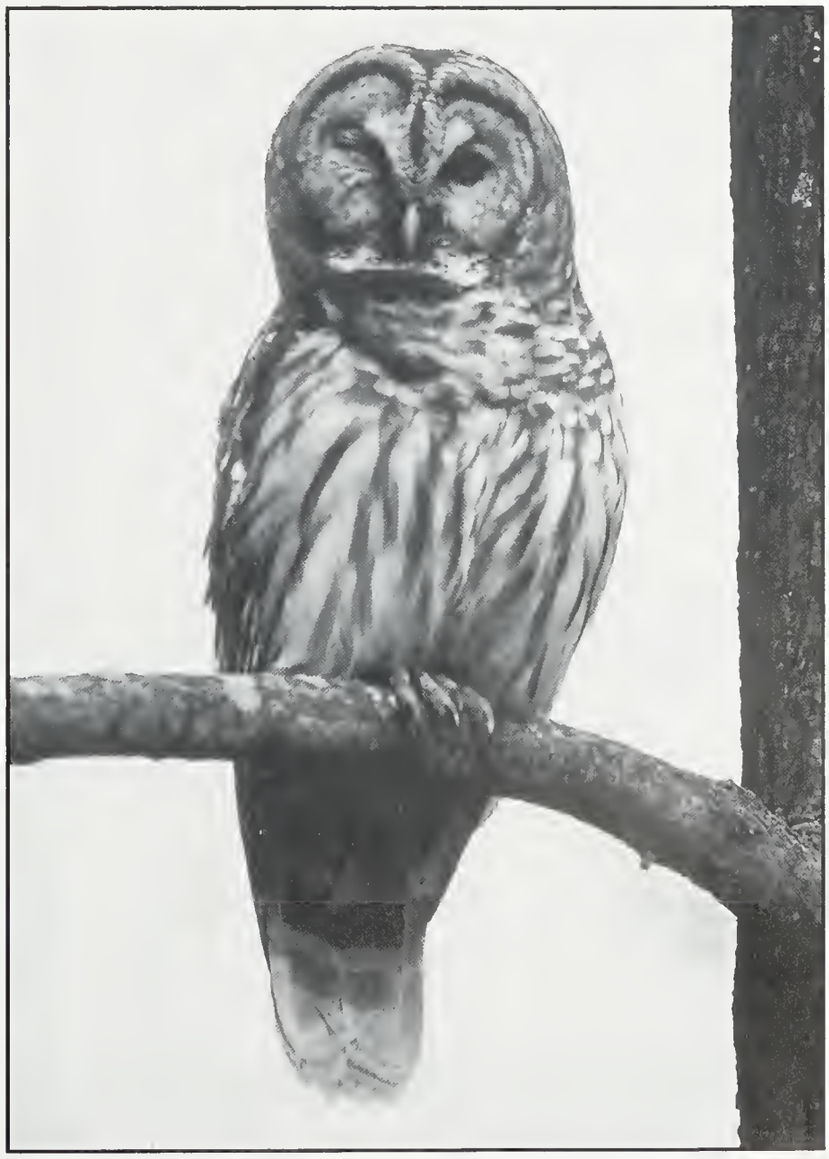
Long-eared Owl. Cook Co. 12 April 1996. Photo by Eric Walters.

Chimney Swift
EA: 8 Apr., Pulaski Co (KM); 13 Apr., Spfld (DB); 15 Apr., Lockport (WS). MC: 480, Decatur, 4 May (MD); 250, Peoria, 22 Mar. (SBj); 150, HL, 29 Apr. (KM).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird
EA: **10 Apr**., Pomona (KM); 2 May, SRSP (CMc, JMc); 2 May, Knox Co (MB); 8 May, Chi (PC). MC: 22, Shelby Co, 20 May (KF)-coming to feeders; 11, Murphysboro, 11 May (BD). LD: 1 June (2), Evanston/ Wilmette (EW, JE). Others: 4, Palatine, 13 May (CF); 4, IBSP, 17 May (EW et al); 4, ne. Cook Co lakefront, 31 May (EW).

Belted Kingfisher
EA: 11 Apr., Evanston (EW). LD: 2 June (2 females), Evanston (EW).

Red-headed Woodpecker
EA: 27 Apr., Chi (EW). LD: 2 June, JP (KC). Others: 16, JP, 9 May (PC).



Barred Owl, Mermet Lake Conservation Area, 21 April 1996. Photo by Eric Walters.

Red-bellied Woodpecker
9 March, Sangamon Co (DO). 31 May, Evanston (EW).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
EA: 25 Mar., Morgan Co (MW); 26 Mar., Urbana (EC). MC: **36**, JP, 16 Apr. (PC); 7, Spfld, 4 Apr. (DB). LD: **28 May**, JP (KC); 11 May, IBSP (RBa); 6 May, Shelby Co (KF).

Northern Flicker
EA: 24 Mar. (3), JP (PC); 24 Mar (7), Sangamon Co (DB). MC: 49, JP, 16 Apr. (PC, KC); 30, ClinL, 30 Apr. (RC); 28, Union Co, 12 Apr. (KM). LD: 12 May (13), JP (PC).

Pileated Woodpecker
MC: 6, Jackson Co, 1 Apr. (KM); 4, Spfld, 8 Apr. (DB); 3, Macon Co, 4 May (MD). No. IL: 28 Apr., Ryerson CA (Lake Co) (SH); 4 May, Wright Woods (Lake Co) (SH); 12 May, Half Day FP (Cook Co) (JMd). Continues northward expansion.

Olive-sided Flycatcher
EA: 4 May, Brown Co (MW); 10 May (2), M.Arb (EW); 10 May, Chi (KC). MC: 5+, Woodford Co, 29 May (MF); 2, Spfld, 21 & 26 May (DB); 2, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 12 May (DW); 2, as above. LD: 11 June, Chi (CW); 10 June, Chi (CW)-different bird; 30 May (2), Spfld (DB); 29 May, MP (KR).

Eastern Wood-Pewee
EA: 21 Apr., Golconda (EW); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB); 1 May, Boone Co (ABr). MC: 30, Champaign Co, 26 May (RC); 10, JP, 17 May (PC, KC). LD: 10 June, Chi (CW).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
EA: **9 May**, JP (KC); 11 May (3), Spfld (DB); 18 May, Carl.L (KM, DK, MSe). MC: **21**, Piatt Co, 25 May (RC); 8, Spfld, 26 May (DB); 7, Chi, 19 May (EW, JE). LD: 12 June, Chi (RH); 11 June, JP (PC). Above expected numbers.

Acadian Flycatcher
EA: 21 Apr., Pomona (DK); 3 May, Mode (Shelby Co) (KF); 8 May, JP (PC). MC: 7, Knox Co, 29 May (MB); 2, Carl.L, 18 May (KM, DK). Others: 17 May, IBSP (RBa et al); 21 May, M.Arb (EW); 24 May, Wilmette (EW). Low numbers and lack of vocalization noted by many observers.

Alder Flycatcher
EA: 10 May, Jersey Co (MW); 11 May, Spfld (DB); 19 May, Chi (EW). MC: **19**, Champaign Co, 26 May (RC); 9, Spfld, 30 May (DB); 7, Carl.L, 18 May (KM, DK, MSe); 5, MArb, 21 May (EW). LD: 12 June (2), JP/Chi (PC,RH); 8 June, Piatt Co (RC). "More than I've ever seen" was a common comment.

Willow Flycatcher
EA: 1 May, Union Co (KM); 3 May, Niantic (Macon Co) (MD); 4 May, McHenry Co (CF). MC: 16, IBSP, 17 May (EW et al); 10, Champaign Co, 26 May (RC). LD: 12 June (4), JP/Chi (PC,RH).

Least Flycatcher
EA: 22 Apr., Spfld (DB); 27 Apr., Union Co (KM, DK); 3 May, Ryerson CA (Lake Co) (EW). MC: **100+**, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC); **79**, JP, 17 May (PC, KC); 30, Welson Spring SP (DeWitt Co), 12 May (MD). LD: 9 June, JP (PC); 2 June, LChau (RC).

Eastern Phoebe
EA: 23 Feb., Franklin Co (LS); 1 Mar., Funk's Grove (McLean Co) (RF); 24 Mar., Riverwoods (EW). MC: 23, JP, 16 Apr. (PC); 15, Chi, 12 Apr. (EW); 11, Urbana, 7 Apr. (RC). LD: 4 May, Evanson (EW).

Great Crested Flycatcher
EA: 17 Apr., Johnson Co (KM); 24 Apr., Sangamon Co (DB); 25 Apr., JP (PC, KC). MC: 21, JP, 9 May (PC, DM); 19, Champaign Co, 4 May (EC); 11, Macon Co, 4 May (MD). LD: 10 June, Chi (CW); 1 June, Wilmette (EW).

Western Kingbird
EA: 11 May, **HL** (KLa); 28 May, E. St. Louis (DK); 1 June, **Wauk** (DD).

Eastern Kingbird
EA: 12 Apr., Union Co (KM); 22 Apr., Mason Co (MW); 26 Apr., Spfld (DB). MC: 38, Menard Co, 15 May (VK); 28, Itasca, 29 May (EW); 15, Union Co, 15 Apr. (KM). LD: 16 June (2), JP (PC).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
19 May, **M.Arb** (fide JF); 26-27 May, **Itasca** (Du Page Co) (HC,m.ob.-video). Over 40 IL spring records; first since '90.

Horned Lark
EA: 9 Feb. (7), M.Arb (EW). MC: 200+, LaSalle Co, 25 Feb. (GR). LD: 24 Mar., Evanston (EW).

Purple Martin
EA: 23 Mar. (2), Jackson Co (KM, BD); 31 Mar. (2), Spfld (DB); 11 Apr. (+), Ne. IL (m.ob.). MC: 100, ML, 8 Apr. (KM, DK); 75, Palatine, 26 May (CF); 23, Spfld, 28 May (DB). LD: 19 June (2), JP (PC); 2 June, migrants still moving down L Michigan (EW). Big dieoff in Mid-may's freezing cold night temperatures.

Tree Swallow
EA: 10 Mar. (2), ML (DK); 14 Mar., SLSP (DB); 17 Mar. (6), MS (WS). MC: **7500**, RLCA, 30 Apr. (KR); 1700, Vermilion Co, 23 Apr. (JSi); 900, Union Co, 15 Apr. (KM). LD: 31 May, JP (PC); 17 May (5), IBSP (EW); 8 May, Spfld (DB).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow
EA: **16 Mar.**, Union Co (KM); 24 Mar., Macon Co (MD); 17 Apr., Chi (PC). MC: 150, Vermilion Co, late April (DI); 80, Union Co, 1 May (KM); 30+, Wauk, 17 May (EW, RBa et al). LD: 2 June(14), JP (PC). Earliest IL Spring record--previous record was just last year on 20 Mar.

Red-bellied Woodpecker, Sangamon Co. 9 March 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Hermit Thrush, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 30 April 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke

Bank Swallow
EA: 10 Apr., Shelby Co (KF); 15 Apr., ML (KM); 18 Apr., Wilmette (EW). MC: 100, Evanston, 19 May (EW); 70, Spfld, 8 May (DB); 50, Fulton, 12 May (KM). LD: 2 June (3), Evanston (EW).

Cliff Swallow
EA: 8 Apr., ML (KM, DK); 14 Apr., Spfld (DB); 2 May, JP (RH). MC: **1000**, Spfld, 13 May (DB, MD). Peak in Ne.IL was between 17-19 May (EW).

Barn Swallow
EA: 23 Mar. (2), CCNWR (KM); 4 Apr., Spfld (DB); 11 Apr (+), Ne.IL (m.ob.). MC: 180, Macon Co, 4 May (MD); 100, Evanston, 19 May (EW). LD: 2 June (37), Evanston (EW).

Blue Jay
EA: 26 Apr., Chi (EW). MC: 200, Snicarte (Mason Co), 8 May (VK); 162, Evanston, 2 June (JE,EW). LD: 21 June (22), Evanston (EW)-two different migrant flocks. Little apparent migration noted So. & Cen.

Tufted Titmouse
31 May, **Wilmette** (EW), first spring record for the area.

Fish Crow
MC: 30+, Jackson Co, 10 Mar. (DK); 6, **Clinton Co**, 4 May (KM); 2, Perry Co, 5 May (VK).

Red-breasted Nuthatch
EA: 9 Apr. (3), Spfld (DB); 26 Apr. (2), JP (GD). MC: 20, Urbana, 9 May (RC). LD: 30 May, Chi (JPu); 28 May, Morgan Co (MW); 19 May (3), Urbana (RC). Many late reports past mid-May.

Brown Creeper
MC: 22, SL, 13 Apr. (GW, CWi). LD: 30 May, Chi (JPu); 19 May, Chi (JE,EW); 15 May, SRSP (JMc, CMc); 12 May, Champaign Co (EC). Many reports past mid-May in N. IL.

Bewick's Wren
EA: 12 Apr., Spfld (DB); 18 Apr., McLean Co (CHo). LD: 14 May, **Piatt Co** (MD); 8 May, Spfld (DB); 4 May, **Knox Co** (MB).

House Wren
EA: **18 Apr.**, JP (KC); 20 Apr., UCCA (RC); 20 Apr., Sangamon Co (DB); 25 Apr., JP (PC). MC: 54, Mahomet, 4 May (RC); 24, Decatur, 4 May (MD). LD: 30 May, JP (PC).

Winter Wren
EA: 25 Feb., OB (KM); 26 Mar. (2), Spfld (DB); 4 Apr. (2), JP/Chi (PC/JPu). MC: 8, Winnebago Co, 4 May (DW). LD: 16 May, SRSP (CMc, JMc); 14 May, Champaign (EC); 13 May, JP (KC); 12 May, Evanston (SM). Many reports of birds remaining into May.

Sedge Wren
EA: 28 Apr, JP (CM, KC); 1 May (2), MP (KR). MC: 20+, Chi, 10 May (RB,JPu,m.ob.); 6, MP, 7 May (KR); 6, McLean Co, 21 May (MF). LD: 29 May, Du Page Co (MS); 27 May, Spfld (DB).

Marsh Wren
EA: 24 Mar., Green Co (HW); 17 Apr., SLSP (DB); 27 Apr., Palatine (CF). MC: **45**, Knox Co, 12 May (MB); **36**, MP, 7 May (KR); 20+, Chi, 10 May (RB,JPu,m.ob.). LD: 31 May (2), JP (PC); 20 May, SLSP (DB).

Golden-crowned Kinglet
EA: 17 Mar. (2), Spfld (DB); 30 Mar., JP (GD). MC: 28, JP, 16 Apr. (PC); 26, SL, 13 Apr. (GW, CWi); 20, Urbana, 31 Mar. (RC). LD: **17 May**, Wauk (EW,DJ et al); 11 May (6), Lake Co (RBa); 11 May, SL (EW); 9 May, Spfld (DB).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
EA: 28 Mar., SLSP (DB); 4 Apr., Chi (JPu). MC: 38, JP, 4 May (PC); 27, Spfld, 23 Apr. (DB). LD: 30 May, JP (PC, KC); 22 May, McHenry Co (CF); 18 May, Spfld (DB); 17 May, Union Co (KM, DK).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
EA: 10 Apr., OB (KM); 16 Apr., Spfld (DB); 18 Apr. (2), JP (PC). MC: 38, Union Co, 1 May (KM); 30, Urbana, 28 Apr. (RC); 23, JP, 26 Apr. (PC). LD: 2 June, JP (PC); 26 May, Spfld (DB); 24 May, Evanston (EW).

Eastern Bluebird
EA: 9 Feb., Spfld (DB); 24 Feb.(9), MNTP (EW, JE). MC: **24**, JP, 26 Apr. (PC). LD: 10 June, Chi (RH); 2 June, JP (PC); 1 June (male), Evanston (EW).

Veery
EA: 28 Apr., ML (DK, KM); 28 Apr., JP (RB); 29 Apr., Spfld (DB). MC: **91**, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); **86**, JP, 17 May (PC); 35, Lake Co, 13 May (SM); 20, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC). LD: 31 May (2), Chi (EW); 30 May, Piatt Co (MD); 28 May, Shelby Co (KF).

Gray-cheeked Thrush
EA: 19 Apr., Union Co (KM); 24 Apr., JP (KC); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB). MC: **57**, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); **40**, Knox Co, 12 May (MB); 35, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC); 22, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 31 May, Chi (EW); 29 May, LChau (KR); 26 May (3),Urbana (EC, RC).

Swainson's Thrush
EA: 16 Apr., Urbana (RC); 17 Apr. (2), Pomona (KM); 18 Apr., JP (PC). MC: **150**, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC); **150**, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); **117**, JP, 17 May (PC, KC); 35, Knox Co, 12 May (MB). LD: 10 June, Chi (RH); 7 June, JP (PC); 1 June, Shelby Co (KF); 31 May, Tazewell Co (SBj).

Hermit Thrush
EA: 6 Mar., Clinton Co (MSe); 20 Mar., Spfld (DB); 3 Apr. (2), JP (PC, KC). MC: **68**, JP, 12 Apr. (PC); **50**, Lake Co, 14 Apr.

(SH); 18, Spfld, 23 Apr. (DB). LD: **24 May**, Evanston (JE, EW); 21 May, JP (KC); 11 May, Piatt Co (RC, EC).

Wood Thrush
EA: 18 Apr., GCSP (KM); 24 Apr., Mahomet (RC); 3 May, JP (DM, PC). MC: **43**, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 18, Champaign Co, 4 May (EC); 12, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF); 10, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 21 May, JP (KC).

American Robin
MC: **5000**, Urbana, 7 Apr. (RC); 953, JP, 24 Mar. (PC).

Gray Catbird
EA: 24 Apr. (2), Pomona (KM, MSe); 25 Apr. (3), Spfld (DB); 25 Apr., JP (KC). MC: **420+**, Chi/JP, 10 May (DSt,RB,PC et al); **113**, JP, 17 May (PC); 94, Champaign, 4 May (EC). LD: 10 June, Chi (CW).

Northern Mockingbird
LD: **1 June**, Chi (Montrose) (GW); 24 May, Wilmette (EW). Continues to expand range northward.

Brown Thrasher
EA: 16 Mar., ML (KM); 26 Mar., Urbana (RC); 12 Apr., JP (PC, KC). MC: 36, Macon Co, 4 May (MD); 16, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 15, Chi, 28 Apr. (EW). LD: 1 June, JP (GSc); 23 May (3), Mason Co (KR).

American Pipit
EA: {1st wave} 4 Mar. (6), UCCA (DK, KM); 15 Mar. (3), Champaign Co (RC); 28 Mar. (6), Wilmette (EW, m.ob.). MC: 75, Sand L (Mason Co), 29 Mar. (KR); 41, MTNWR, 30 Mar. (HW); 26, Spfld, 27 Mar. (DB). LD: 9 Apr., RLCA (KR); 3 Apr., Chi (RH, EW). EA: {2nd wave} 18 Apr. (30), CCNWR (KM); 2 May, Chi (RH). MC: 15, GLNTC, 8 May (EW); 4, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: **1 June**, Evanston (EW); 19 May, Evanston (EW); 13 May, Spfld (DB).

Cedar Waxwing
EA: {1st wave} 5 Feb. (30), Spfld (DB); 5 Mar.(4), St. Clair Co (KM). MC: 100, Urbana, 11 Feb. (RC). LD: 30 Mar. (2), Spfld (DB); 24 Mar. (3), Evanston (EW). EA: {2nd wave} 4 May (5), Pulaski Co (KM); 7 May (28), JP (PC, DM). MC: 400, Urbana, 24 May (RC); 92, JP, 1 June (PC).

Northern Shrike
LD: 31 Mar., Boone Co (DF); 30 Mar., Winthrop Harbor (EW); 15 Mar., Palatine (CF); 10 Mar., DeWitt Co (RC)- overwintered.

Loggerhead Shrike
EA: 3 Mar., Pike Co, (MW); 16 Mar., Calhoun Co (HW); 20 Mar., Boone Co (ABr). MC: 2, Carl.L, 26 Apr. (VK). LD: **23-24 May**, Chi (Montrose) (m.ob.). Others: 20 Apr., **JP** (KC).

White-eyed Vireo
EA: 1 Apr, Jackson Co (KM); 15 Apr, Shelby Co (KF); 4 May, Se. Du Page Co (fide JF). MC: 6, Urbana, 9 May (RC); 5, Spfld, 3 May (DB). LD: **31 May**, Chi (JPu, EW); 22 May, Lake Co (DJ). Low numbers reported by many observers.

Bell's Vireo
EA: 4 May, Mercer Co (BB); 4 May, Spfld (DB); 11 May, Clinton Co (DK).

Solitary Vireo
EA: 21 Apr., Union Co (MD); 24 Apr., Morgan Co (MW); 27 Apr., M.Arb (fide JF); 4 May, JP (TJ). MC: **12**, Chi/JP, 17 May (JPu,PC); **11**, Knox Co, 11 May (MB); **5**, Peoria Co, 16 May (SBj); **4**, M.Arb, 10 May (EW). LD: 29 May, Rockford (DW); 21 May, Chi (JPu); 17 May (2), Spfld (DB).

Yellow-throated Vireo
EA: 12 Apr., Union Co (KM); 19 Apr., SLSP (DB); 4 May, JP (KHu, PC). MC: 8, Union Co, 1 May (KM); 7, Sangamon Co, 4 May (DB); 4, MArb, 10 May (EW). LD: 10 June (2), Chi (RH,CW).

Warbling Vireo
EA: 13 Apr., Pomona (KM); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB); 28 Apr. (2), JP (RH, KC). MC: 13, Union Co, 1 May (KM); 8, Spfld, 19 May (DB); 5, Winnebago Co, 18 May (DW). LD: 2 June, Wilmette (EW).

Philadelphia Vireo
EA: 1 May (2), Union Co (KM); 9 May (2), Spfld (DB); 17 May, IBSP (RBa; EW). MC: 9, Union Co, 21 May (KM); 9, Knox Co, 21 May (MB); 7, Winnebago Co, 18 May (DW). LD: 31 May, Spfld (DB); 29 May, McHenry Co (DF).

Red-eyed Vireo
EA: 17 Apr., Union Co (KM); 24 Apr., Spfld (DB); 16 May, JP (KC)-the first noted in Chicago. MC: 60, Urbana, 26 May (RC); 29, MArb, 21 May (EW); 24, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 10 June, Chi (CW).

Blue-winged Warbler
EA: **18 Apr.**, JP (GD, SDa); 18 Apr., GCSP (KM); 22 Apr., Knox Co (MB); 26 Apr., M.Arb (fide EW). MC: 7, Palos, 10 May (CT); 6, Union Co, 24 Apr. (KM); 6, Spfld, 7 May (DB). LD: 1 June, Cook Co (WM); 26 May, DeKalb (DS).

Golden-winged Warbler
EA: 27 Apr., Union Co (DK, KM); 4 May (3), Spfld (DB); 8

American Pipit, Gillson Park, Wilmette, Cook Co. 1 April 1996. Photo by Eric Walters.

May, JP (PC). MC: 14, Tazewell Co, 16 May (MF); 9, Spfld, 9 May (DB); 8, Chi 18 May (DSt); 7, Schiller Park, 16 May (RB). LD: 30 May, Chi (JPu); 28 May, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB); 25 May (female), Evanston (EW); 17 May (2); Spfld (DB).

Tennessee Warbler
EA: 17 Apr. (2), Union Co (KM); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB); 4 May, McHenry Co (DF). MC: 86, MArb, 21 May (EW); 50, Urbana, 9 May (RC); 33, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 31 May, Urbana (EC); 30 May, Evanston (EW); 30 May, Chi (JPu).

Orange-crowned Warbler
EA: 19 Apr., Urbana (RC); 20 Apr., JP (KH, THa); 27 Apr., Pomona (DK, KM). MC: 6, Champaign, 4 May (EC); 5, Spfld, 29 Apr. (DB); 4, Chi 18 May (DSt). LD: **29 May**, Evanston (JE); **29 May**, Knox Co (MB).

Nashville Warbler
EA: 20 Apr., Pomona (DK); 20 Apr. (2), Sangamon Co (DB); 2 May, Evanston (JE). MC: 38, Chi 13 May (DSt); 34, Champaign, 4 May (EC); 16, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 30 May (4), Evanston (JE); 30 May, Chi (JPu); 28 May, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB).

Northern Parula
EA: 12 Apr. (2), Pomona (KM); 17 Apr., Spfld (DB); 8 May, JP (PC). MC: 14, Union Co, 19 Apr. (KM); 11, Champaign Co, 4 May (EC); **8**, MArb, 10 May (EW). LD: 4 June, Chi (JPu); 29 May, Evanston (JE); 18 May, Spfld (DB).

Yellow Warbler
EA: 15 Apr., Union Co (KM); 24 Apr., SLSP (DB); 26 Apr., SL (EW); 26 Apr., M.Arb (fide EW). MC: 66, Champaign Co, 4 May (EC); 31, JP, 9 May (PC); 18, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 1 June, JP (PC); 30 May, Spfld (DB).

Chestnut-sided Warbler
EA: 1 May (3), Union Co (KM); 4 May, Central IL (m.ob.); 8 May, JP (DA). MC: 40, Chi 19 May (DSt); 30, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC); 21, MArb, 10 May (EW). LD: **13 Jun**, JP (PC); 10 June, Chi (RH); 3 June, Champaign Co (EC).

Magnolia Warbler
EA: 27 Apr., Piatt Co (RC et al); 4 May, Clinton Co (DK); 4 May, McHenry Co (DF). MC: 39, Chi 18 May (DSt); 25, Urbana, 9 May (RC). LD: 12 June, Decatur (MD); 8 June, Piatt Co (RC); 6 June (female), Chi (JPu).

Cape May Warbler
EA: 4 May, Mahomet (RC); 5 May (4), Rockford (DW). MC: 9, Oak Park, 11 May (DSt); 6, Clark Co, 11 May (MD). LD: 30 May, Urbana (RC); 30 May, Piatt Co (MD); 30 May (2), Chi/JP (EW,PC).

Black-throated Blue Warbler
EA: 4 May (2), Shelby Co (KF); 6 May, JP (DA et al); 7 May, LChau (KR). MC: 4, JP, 9 May (PC); 2, Tazewell Co, 16 May (MF). LD: **12 June**, Chi (RH); 31 May, JP (PC); 15 May, Spfld (DB).

Yellow-rumped Warbler
EA: 19 Feb., Pulaski Co (KM); **5 Mar**., Chi (EL); 11 Mar. (2), Spfld (DB). MC: 300, LChau, 7 May (KR); 300, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC); 150, SL, 7 May (EW); 110, Union Co, 15 Apr. (KM). LD: **23 June**, JP (*PC); 29 May, Spfld (DB).

Hermit X Townsend's Warbler
4 May, Van Patton Woods FP (Lake Co) (*RH, EL) a male bird identical to a Hermit Warbler except with two heavy black streaks on the sides.

Black-throated Green Warbler
EA: 17 Apr., OB (KM); 18 Apr., Spfld (DB); 2 May (2), JP (KC, PC). MC: 24, Champaign Co, 4 May (EC); 16, Chi 19 May (DSt); 14, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 12 June, Decatur (MD); 12 June, Palos (WS); 10 June (2), Chi (RH,CW).

Blackburnian Warbler
EA: 27 Apr. (2), Union Co (DK, KM); 2 May, JP (PC); 4 May, Decatur (MD). MC: 15, Mason Co, 14 May (KR, MB); 14, MArb, 10 May (EW); 7, Spfld, 12 May (DB). LD: 3 June, Wauk (DJ); 2 June, DeKalb (DS); 31 May, Urbana (RC).

Yellow-throated Warbler
EA: 5 Apr., ML (KM); 13 Apr., McLean Co (CHo). MC: 8, Pomona, 19 Apr., (KM). Others: 10 May, Chi (DSt); 12 May, SL (m.ob.); 12 May, Arlington Heights (DJ)-on a city street; 18 May, JP (LMi); 20-21 May, Evanston (BN, m.ob.);

Pine Warbler
EA: 9 Mar., Jackson Co (DMi); at feeder (wintered?); 3 Apr., SRSF (KR); 18 Apr., JP (JR). MC: 6, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 12 May (DW); 5, Pomona, 10 Apr. (KM); 4, JP, 9 May (PC, KC). LD: 17 May, IBSP (DJ et al); 14 May, Mason Co (KR, MB); 12 May, Winnebago Co (DW).

Prairie Warbler
EA: 17 Apr., OB (KM); 25 Apr., JP (EL); 25 Apr. (4), Spfld (DB) . MC: 6, Lusk Creek (Johnson Co), 21 Apr. (EW); 4, Union Co, 24 Apr. (KM, MSe). LD: **3 June** (male), Chi (Montrose) (JPu). Others: 12 May, Urbana (RC); 11 May, Riverwoods (DJ); 4 May, JP (DA); 27-28 Apr., **M.Arb** (fide JF).

Palm Warbler
EA: 18 Apr. (3), Union Co (KM); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB); 25 Apr., JP (PC et al). MC: **400**, LChau, 7 May (KR); 100, Piatt Co, 11 May (EC, RC); 71, JP, 9 May (PC); 25, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: **10 June**, Chi (RH); 29 May, JP (PC); 19 May, Urbana (RC).

Bay-breasted Warbler
EA: 24 Apr., Pomona (KM, MSe); 3 May, Macon Co (MD); 8 May, Se. Du Page Co (fide JF); 9 May, JP (DM). MC: 10, LChau, 10 May (KR); 8, JP, 15 May (RH); 2, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 30 May, JP (PC); 26 May, Spfld (DB).

Blackpoll Warbler
EA: 25 Apr., M.Arb (fide JF); 27 Apr., Union Co (KM, DK); 3 May, JP (RH); 4 May, Shelby Co (KF). MC: 50, LChau, 10 May (KR); 13, MArb, 21 May (EW); 5, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 10 June, Chi (CW); 6 June, Urbana (RC); 2 June (female), Wilmette (EW); 31 May, Spfld (DB).

Cerulean Warbler
EA: **18 Apr**. (male), Downer's Grove, (BFi, KFi-ph)-on ground in backyard; 19 Apr., Pomona (KM); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB); 5 May, Naperville (fide JF). MC: 7, Pomona, 24 Apr. (KM, MSe); 5, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM); 2, MArb, 10 May (EW). LD: 26 May, Urbana (RC); 25 May, Wilmette (EW).

Black-and-white Warbler
EA: 12 Apr., Pomona (KM, DK); 12 Apr., McLean Co (CHo); 19 Apr., Chi (EW). MC: 65, Lake Co, 13 May (SM); 48, Champaign Co, 4 May, (EC). LD: 8 June, Champaign (EC); 31 May (2), JP (PC); 28 May (2), Knox Co (MB).

American Redstart
EA: 19 Apr. (3), Pomona (KM); 1 May, JP (RS); 3 May, Decatur (MD). MC: 75, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC); 68, JP, 20 May (PC, KC). LD: 17 June (male), Chi (JPu); 14 June (female), Chi (JPu); 12 June, Decatur (MD).

Prothonotary Warbler
EA: 12 Apr., ML (KM); 26 Apr., SL (AMi); 1 May, Spfld (DB). MC: 20, Union Co, 1 May (KM); 3, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF). LD: **31 May**, **SRSF** (KR); 23 May, **Evanston** (JE,m.ob.)-1st record for Evanston. Others: 10 May (5), ne. IL (fide RB).

Worm-eating Warbler
EA: 19 Apr. (4), Union Co (KM); 23 Apr., Spfld (DB); 25 Apr., JP (PC). MC: 10, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 29 May, Urbana (RC); 29 May, Knox Co (MB); 24 May, Boone Co (DW). Others: 19 May, Cook Co (CA); 11 May, Cook Co (GW); 10 May, MArb (EW); 26 Apr., SL (AMi).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER
27-29 Apr., JP (*WMo, m.ob.-ph). N. IL's 6th spring record; first since '87. Seen by 80-100 observers.

Ovenbird
EA: 23 Apr., Spfld (DB); 24 Apr., Pomona (KM, MSe); 25 Apr. (2), JP (PC, GD). MC: **240+**, Chi/JP (DSt,RB,PC et al)-still 73 at JP on the 11th; **150+**, LaBagh Woods FP (Cook Co), 11 May (GW); 30, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC). LD: **10 June**, Chi (CW); 2 June, JP (PC); 28 May (2), Spfld (DB).

Northern Waterthrush
EA: **1 Apr.**, Spfld (DB); 15 Apr., JP (KC); 21 Apr., ML (KM). MC: 100, LaBagh Woods FP (Cook Co), 11 May (GW); 30, Urbana, 9 May (RC); 25, JP/Chi, 10 May (PC,JPu); 21, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 31 May, Chi (EW); 29 May, Knox Co (MB). Earliest spring arrival date for IL.

Louisiana Waterthrush
EA: 29 Mar., Jackson Co (KM); 2 Apr., Mason Co (KR); 11 Apr., Cook Co (CT). MC: 11, Union Co, 19 Apr. (KM); 4, DeKalb Co, 4 May (RF). LD: **27 May**, JP (PC)-record late departure date for JP. Others: 19 Apr., Chi (EW); 19 May, JP (EW,JE).

Kentucky Warbler
EA: 20 Apr., UCCA (BD et al); 25 Apr., Warrenville Grove (fide JF); 25 Apr. (2), Spfld (DB). MC: 8, Union Co, 1 May (KM); 6, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM); 4, Spfld, 9 May (DB); **3**, LaBagh Woods FP, 11 May (GW). Others: 10 May, Fermi (JPo); 15 May, Riverwoods (fide RB); 21 May (2), M.Arb (EW).

Connecticut Warbler
EA: 9 May, Urbana (RC); 10 May, Chi (RB); 18 May, Union Co (KM), only report from S. IL MC: 6, Urbana, 26 May (RC); 4, Piatt Co, 30 May (MD). LD: 10 June, Chi (CW); 8 June, Urbana (GL).

Mourning Warbler
EA: 6 May, Union Co (KM); 9 May, JP (PC, SF); 9 May, Decatur (MD). MC: 14, JP, 20 May (PC, KC); 12, Piatt Co, 25 May (RC). LD: **21 June**, Chi (JPu); 12 June, Chi (JPu); 12 June, JP (PC); 5 June, Champaign Co (RC).

Common Yellowthroat
EA: 17 Apr., Pomona (KM): 25 Apr. (4), Spfld (DB); 25 Apr., JP (PC). MC: **83**, JP, 17 May (PC); 48, Champaign Co, 4 May (EC); 39, Union Co, 1 May (KM). LD: 10 June (2), Chi (CW); 2 June, Evanston (JE,EW).

Hooded Warbler
EA: 19 Apr. (2), Union Co (KM); 19 Apr., McLean Co (CHo); 23 Apr., JP (fide KC). MC: 6, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 18 May (DW); 3, Palos, 9 May (fide RB). LD: 31 May, Wilmette (JE); 31 May, Knox Co (MB). Numerous reports from all over N.IL

Wilson's Warbler
EA: 2 May, JP (PC); 5 May, Spfld (DB); 10 May, Clinton Co (DK). MC: 19, JP, 17 May (PC, JSd); 10, Spfld, 13 May (DB); 7, Mason Co, 9 May (KR). LD: 10 June, Chi (JPu); 2 June (2), JP (PC); 26 May (2), Champaign (EC).

Canada Warbler
EA: 9 May, Urbana (RC); 10 May, JP (SF); 11 May, Clinton Co (DK). MC: 19, M.Arb, 21 May (EW); 12, Urbana, 26 May (RC et al). LD: 10 June (2), Chi (JPu,CW).

Yellow-breasted Chat
EA: 24 Apr. (2), Union Co (KM, MSe); 3 May, Shelby Co (KF); 10 May (5), JP/Chi (DSt,RB,JPu,KC, m.ob.). MC: 5, as above; 4, Chi, 11 May (m.ob.); 3, Spfld, 31 May (DB). Low numbers reported statewide. LD: **12 June**, Chi (RH); 21 May, JP (KC).

Summer Tanager
EA: 19 Apr., Union Co (KM); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB);

Left, Kentucky Warbler, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 2 May 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Scarlet Tanager, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 16 May 1996.This male was drooping its wings in the presence of a female presumably to show off its back and rump. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Summer Tanager, Washington Park, Sangamon Co. 1 May 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

26 Apr., ne. Lake Co (DJ); 26 Apr. (2), JP (PC). MC: 5, Mason Co, 14 May (KR, MB); 5, Urbana, 26 May (EC, RC). LD: **10 June** (male), Chi (Montrose) (RH,JPu); 31 May, Knox Co (MB); 28 May, Spfld (DB). Others: 8 May (4), Du Page Co (3 locations) (m.ob.-fide JF); 9 May (2), Winnebago Co (DW); 10 May, M.Arb (EW); 11 May, LaBagh Woods FP (GW). Unusually high number of reports from ???

Scarlet Tanager

EA: 15 Apr., Charleston (BH); 15 Apr., Union Co (KM); 25 Apr., JP (GD, SDa). MC: 10, Lake Co, 19 May (SH); 5, Spfld, 9 May (DB). LD: 10 June, Chi (RH); 30 May, Spfld (DB). Low numbers reported statewide.

WESTERN TANAGER

10 May (male), Chi (Berger Park) (*JSu). IL's 13th spring record; the first since '92.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

EA: 20 Apr., Johnson Co (KM); 25 Apr., Spfld (DB); 1 May, McHenry Co (CF). MC: 80, Piatt Co, 11 May (EC, RC); 48, Evanston, 10 May (EW); 23, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 29 May, JP (KC). Many reports of birds coming to feeders.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK

10 May (male), Downer's Grove (*BFi), in back yard. IL's 5th spring record; first since '89.

Blue Grosbeak

EA: 15 Apr., ML (KM); 1 May, Mason Co (KR); 4-6 May, Indianola (Vermilion Co) (*ACo). MC: 2, Union Co, 27 Apr. (KM, DK). LD: 5 June, Niantic (Macon Co) (MD). Others: 14 May, Menard Co (VK); 17 May, Urbana (RC); 19 May, Spfld (DB); 23 May, SRSF (RBj).

LAZULI BUNTING

7 May (male, 2nd yr), Spfld (*DB). IL's 2nd State record.

Indigo Bunting

EA: 12 Apr., ML (KM); 13 Apr., Shelby Co (KF); 25 Apr., Downer's Grove (fide JF); 3 May (2), JP (RH). MC: 100, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC, EC); 70, Massac Co, 28 Apr. (KM, DK); 50, LaSalle Co, 11 May (CMc, JMc)-one flock in a field. Large numbers present in flocks on the ground and at feeders. LD: 24 May (2), Evanston (EW).

Dickcissel

EA: 28 Apr., Pulaski Co (KM, DK); 1 May, Shelbyville (KF); 4 May, MNTP (m.ob.). MC: 80, Piatt Co, 11 May (RC); 12, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM).

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE

20-21 May, Poplar Grove (Boone Co) (*ABr,*m.ob.-ph). IL's 4th spring record; first since '79.

Eastern Towhee

EA: 19 Feb., CONWR (KM); 8 Mar., Spfld (DB); 14 Mar., JP (PC). MC: 11, Mahomet, 4 May (RC); 10, JP, 8 May (PC, KC). LD: 27 May, JP (PC).

Spotted Towhee

10 Mar., Putnam Co (CMc, JMc); 21 Apr., Spfld (DB); 13 May, JP (*PC).

Vesper Sparrow, Sangamon Co. 4 April 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

American Tree Sparrow

MC: 22, Spfld, 3 Mar. (DB). LD: **16 May** (male), Palatine (CF), present & singing for some time; 10 May, Chi (m.ob.).

Chipping Sparrow

EA: 23 Mar., St. Clair Co (DK); 25 Mar., Morgan Co (MW); 11 Apr. (+), Ne. IL (m.ob.). MC: 108, Alsip (Cook Co), 11 May (SF); 62, JP, 10 May (PC); 54, Mahomet, 4 May (RC). LD: 30 May, JP (PC).

Clay-colored Sparrow

EA: 27 Apr., Piatt Co (RC); 1 May, Mason Co (KR); 4 May, Chi (m.ob.). MC: **19**, Chi/JP, 10 May (DSt,PC,RB et al); **5**, Morgan Co, 5 May (MW); **5**, M.Arb, 10 May (EW). Others: 4 May, Carl.L (*DK, m.ob.); 13 May, Urbana (GL, m.ob.). Significant number of reports.

Field Sparrow

EA: 19 Feb. (12), Pulaski Co (KM); 3 Mar., SLSP (DB); 24 Mar., JP (KC). MC: 31, JP, 25 Apr. (PC, KC); 28, Macon Co, 4 May (MD). LD: 2 June, JP (PC).

Vesper Sparrow

EA: 15 Mar., Rantoul (RC); 27 Mar. (3), Clinton Co (MSe); 7 Apr., Grundy Co (CMc, JMc); 11 Apr., Chi (JPu). MC: 10, Champaign Co, 7 May (EC); 3, Spfld, 21 Apr. (DB). LD: 18 Apr., JP (PC). Very low numbers reported.

Lark Sparrow, Rochester, Sangamon Co. 27 April 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

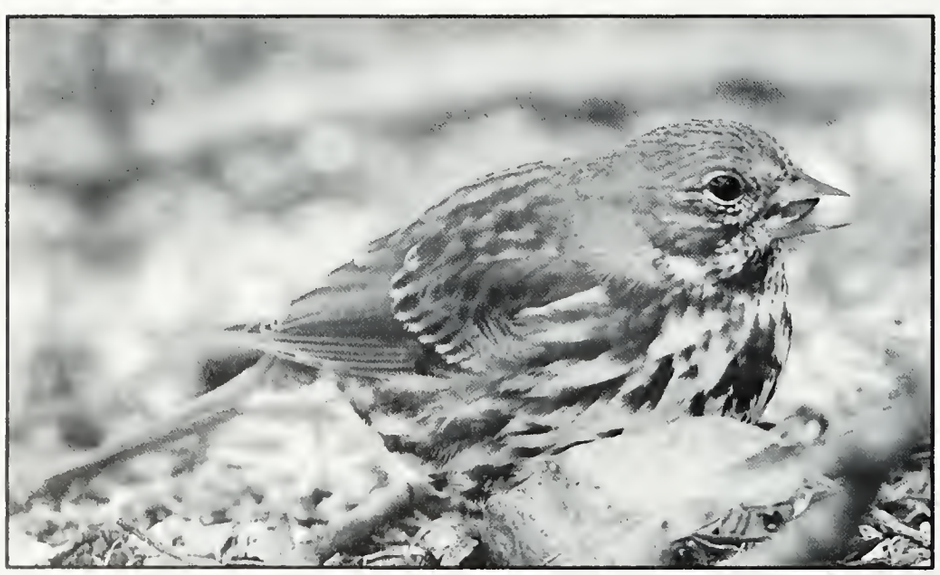
Lark Sparrow, Jackson Park, Cook Co. 17 April 1996. Photo by Thomas Jackman.

Lark Sparrow
EA: 14 Apr. (2), St. Clair Co (DK); 16-17 Apr., **JP** (PC, DM, TJ-ph); 20 Apr., McLean Co (CHo). MC: 2, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM, MSe); 2, Mason Co, 26 Apr. (KR). LD: 27 May, Ford Co (RC); 21 May (2) Jackson Co (BD). Most ever reported from N. IL: 19 Apr., Chi (Montrose) (EW); 27 Apr., Fermi (PK); 27 Apr. (2), Springbrook Prairie (JSu); 28 Apr., Chi (Rainbow Beach) (DM, m.ob.); 1 May, Chi (Montrose) (RH); 5 May, c. Du Page Co. (fide JF); 9-10 May, JP (DM, PC); 3 more at Montrose.

Savannah Sparrow
EA: 10 Mar., Macon Co (MD); **12 Mar**, JP (PC), earliest JP record. MC: 35, JP, 25 Apr. (PC); 30, Alexander Co, 13 Apr. (KM, DK); 25, ClinL, 30 Mar. (RC). LD: 2 June, Evanston (JE).

Grasshopper Sparrow
EA: 19 Apr. (2), Mason Co (KR); 20 Apr., Pulaski Co (KM); 25 Apr., JP (PC). MC: 6, Champaign Co, 4 May (EC); 4, Macon Co, 4 May (MD); 3, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 1 June, JP (PC).

Henslow's Sparrow
EA: 6 Apr., ClinL (RC); 20 Apr., McHenry Co (DF); 28 Apr., Saline Co (JD, DK, KM). MC: 2, Matthiessen SP (LaSalle Co), 10 May (JMc, CMc). LD: 24 May, MP (KR); 18 May, Evanston (EW). Others: 19 Apr., SLSP (DB); 3 May, Fulton Co (KR).



Fox Sparrow, Sangamon Co. 9 March 1996. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

LeConte's Sparrow
EA: 9 Mar., ClinL (MD et al); 21 Mar., SLSP (DB); 21 Apr., JP (PC). MC: 4, SLSP, 9 Apr. (DB); 3, Chi, 10 May (m.ob.). LD: **25 May**, Greene Co (HW); 20 May, JP (KC); 12 May, Knox Co (MB).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
EA: 10 May, Chi (RB); 18 May, ClinL (MD). MC: **4**, Knox Co, 12 May (MB), two were singing males. LD: 29 May, Knox Co (MB); 27 May, Champaign Co (RC).

Fox Sparrow
EA: 25 Feb. (4), JP (KC); 26 Feb., Adams Co (KV); 27 Feb., Evanston (EW); 28 Feb., Knox Co (MB). MC: 30, Urbana, 15-31 Mar. (RC, EC); 26, JP, 12Apr. (PC, KC). LD: **11 May**, Schiller Woods FP (RB); 5 May, JP (KC); **3 May**, SRSF (KR). Earliest arrival and latest departure dates ever recorded at JP.

Song Sparrow
EA: 24 Feb. (2), MNTP (EW, JE); 27 Feb., Knox Co (MB). MC: 148, Evanston, 14 Mar. (EW); 42, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: 12 May, JP (PC).

Lincoln's Sparrow
EA: 21 Apr., Spfld (DB); 25 Apr. (3), JP (PC, KC); 27 Apr. (3), Union Co (KM, DK). MC: **83**, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 5, Knox Co, 12 May (MB); 4, Decatur, 4 May (MD). LD: 1 June, Wilmette (JE); 1 June, JP (PC); 21 May, Mendota (JH); 18 May, Rock Cut SP (DW).

Swamp Sparrow
EA: 28 Feb., JP (PC, KC); 3 Mar., Sangamon Co (DB). MC: 100, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 46, OB, Apr. 5 (KM); 39, JP, 4 May (PC). LD: 2 June, JP (PC); 19 May, Macon Co (MD).

White-throated Sparrow
EA: 25 Mar. (14), Sangamon Co (DB); 1 Apr., Adams Co (KV); 11 Apr., JP (PC). MC: 351, JP, 25 Apr. (PC); 172, Macon Co, 4 May (MD). LD: 11 June, ne. Chi (fide RB); 10 June (2), Chi (RH); **1 June**, Shelby Co (KF); 29 May, Vermilion Co (JSi).

White-crowned Sparrow
EA: 3 Mar. (7), Alton (RF); 16 Mar. (35), Union Co (KM); 16 Mar., Morgan Co (MW). MC: 275, Chi (Grant Park), 10 May (DSt); 234, Macon Co, 4 May (MD); 40, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM). LD: **23 June**, JP (PC); **13 June**, Jersey Co (fide HW), singing at a feeder; 25 May, Shelby Co (KF).

Harris' Sparrow
EA: 26 Apr., Urbana (RC); 27 Apr., Adams Co (KV). MC: **3**, Belvedere, 3 May (ABr); **3**, CBG, 12 May (RB); 2, Rockton, 16 May (DW). LD: 14-16 May, Boone Co (*LBa); 13 May, Urbana (m.ob.); 13 May, Ottawa (JMc, CMc). Others: 12 May, Chi (m.ob.); 11 May, Joliet (JM-ph); 10 May (2), Chi (DSt,RB). Others: **7-21 Mar.** (imm. male), Spfld(DB,m.ob.-ph)- overwintering bird?. Significant number of reports.

Dark-eyed Junco
MC: 125, Chi (Grant Park), 15 Apr. (DSt); 60, Spfld, 25 Mar. (DB); 60, Jackson Co, 23 Mar. (KM). LD: **2 June**, Downer's Grove (BFi, KFi). Many late reports; esp. from SBCs on May 4, even from S. IL.

Lapland Longspur
EA: 10 Feb. (3), Evanston (EW). MC: 500, Sangamon Co, 8 Mar. (DB); 200, LaSalle Co, 25 Feb. (DBr, GR); 100, Champaign Co, 13 Apr. (JSi). LD: 5 May, Tazewell Co (KR); 4 May (150), DeKalb Co (KFl).

Smith's Longspur
EA: 8 Mar. (2), Sangamon Co (DB); 29 Mar., Sand L (Mason Co); 30 Mar. (4), DeWitt Co (RC). MC: 200+, DeWitt Co, 6 Apr. (MD); 100, Sangamon Co, 5 Apr. (DB); 100, Rantoul, 7 Apr. (RC). LD: 4 May (8), Sangamon Co (DB); 1 May, Knox Co (MB); 19 Apr. (22), McLean Co (DJ, JE).

Snow Bunting
EA: 10 Feb. (2), Evanston (EW). MC: 66, LSNP, 3 Mar. (CMc, JMc).

Bobolink
EA: 28 Apr., Pulaski Co (KM, DK); 3 May, SRSF (KR); 3 May, JP (JO). MC: 58, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF); 30, Clinton Co, 4 May (KM); 29, Evanston, 8 May (EW)-grounded by fog and sitting in trees. LD: 10 June, Chi (RH); 2 June, JP (KC).

Red-winged Blackbird
EA: 16 Feb. (5—3 female), MNTP (EW). MC: 1015+, Joliet area, 24 Feb. (EW,JE).

Eastern Meadowlark
EA: 6 Feb., Sangamon Co (DB); 24 Feb. (10), MNTP (fide EW). MC: 37, Mahomet, 4 May (RC); 36, Union Co, 3 Apr. (KM). LD: **31 May**, JP (PC).

Western Meadowlark
EA: 3 Feb., Spfld (DB); 25 Feb. (2), LaSalle Co (JMc,CMc,GR); 5 Apr., **Chi** (RH, EW). MC: 3, DeKalb Co, 20 Mar. (RF); 2, Sangamon Co, 13 Mar. (DB).

Yellow-headed Blackbird
EA: 13 Apr., Mt. Pulaski (Logan Co) (EW, CA et al); 13 Apr. (2), LCal (WM); 17 Apr., Charleston (BH), 2nd Coles Co record. MC: 11, LCal, 19 May (EW, JE). LD: 5 May (female), Galesburg (MB), at a feeder.

Rusty Blackbird
EA: 6 Feb., Spfld (DB); 16 Feb. (75), MNTP (EW); 19 Feb. (6), Pulaski Co (KM). MC: **1000**, Jackson Co, Apr. 8 (KM, DK); **125**, Moraine Hills SP, 30 Mar. (EW). LD: 11 May, River Forest (DSt); 11 May, SL (EW); 10 May (9), Lake Co (SH). Others: 24, Chi, 12 Apr. (JPu,EW).

Brewer's Blackbird
MC: **100-150**, Jackson Co, 16 Mar. (KM, DK); 25, Spfld, 3 Apr. (DB); 22, SLSP, 4 Mar. (MD). LD: 14 Apr. (2), Nw. Du Page Co (JPo).

Common Grackle
EA: 17 Feb., Du Page Co (fide EW); 24 Feb. (97), MNTP (EW,JE).

Brown-headed Cowbird
EA: 24 Feb. (6), MNTP (EW,JE). MC: 215+, Chi, 12 Apr. (EW).

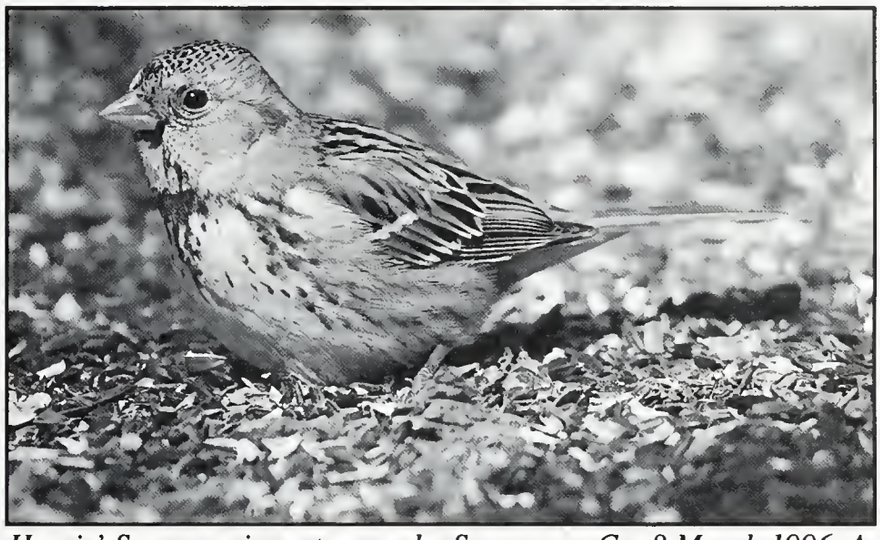
Orchard Oriole
EA: 19 Apr., GCSP (RC); 19 Apr., Spfld (DB); 25 Apr., Nelson L Marsh (fide JF); 25 Apr., DeKalb (RF). MC: 7, Union Co, 27 Apr. (DK, KM); 6, Spfld, 8 May (DB). LD: **12 June** (2 im. males), Chi (RH); 31 May, Chi (EW).

Baltimore Oriole
EA: 21 Apr., Johnson Co (KM et al); 28 Apr., Morgan Co (MW). MC: 20, JP, 9 May (PC); 16, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF). LD: 10 June, Chi (CW); 1 June, Evanston (EW).

Purple Finch
EA: 10 Mar., Urbana (RC); 6 Apr., Skokie (EW); 6 Apr., Evanston (GW). MC: 15, Knox Co, 30 Apr. (MB); 14, Mode (Shelby Co), 4 May (KF); 10, near MM, 5 May (MS); 10, Lowden-Miller SF, 4 May (RSe). LD: 26 May (female), Adams Co (KV); 24 May, Shelby Co (KF); 17 May, Wauk (EW); 17 May (2), JP (PC). Many late reports.

House Finch
EA: 10 Feb. (3), Evanston (EW). MC: 122, Evanston, 24 Mar. (EW)-flocks migrating high in sky.

White-winged Crossbill
12 Mar., Palatine (CF), imm. male at feeder; 3 Mar., Lyons Woods (Wauk) (JMd), wintered.



Harris' Sparrow, immature male, Sangamon Co. 8 March 1996. A Harris' Sparrow, presumably the photographed bird, was singing on 21 March 1996 at the same spot. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Common Redpoll
MC: **56**, Evanston, 5 Mar. (EW); 20, DeKalb, 10 Mar. (RF, DS); 7, LaSalle Co, 3 Mar. (CMc, JMc). LD: **2 May**, McHenry Co (DF); 10 Apr. (2), Evanston (EW); 6 Apr., Skokie (EW). Others: 19 Mar. (4), SL (EW); 29 Mar. (3), SRSF (KR); 21 Mar., Urbana (RC).

Pine Siskin
MC: 45, M.Arb, 6 Apr. (DSt); 10, Spfld, 3 Mar. (DB). LD: 30 May, McHenry Co (DF); 28 May (4), Urbana (RC); 25 May (2), Mason Co (RBj); 17 May (3), IBSP (EW, DJ, et al). Many late reports.

American Goldfinch
MC: 300+, Piatt & Champaign Co, 11 May, (RC, EC); 170, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF); 145, HL, 15 Apr. (KM); 120+, Chi, 19 May (EW,JE).

Evening Grosbeak
MC: 50+, Saline Co, 28 Apr. (JD et al); 18, Shelby Co, 4 May (KF). LD: **27 May**, Shelby Co (KF); 11 May, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MB); 10 May (female), Evanston (**EW). Others: thru 17 Apr.(male), Evanston (EW)-overwintering bird; 25 Apr., JP (PC); 25 Apr. (male), Evanston (EW-ph)-new bird; 4-5 May, Crawford Co (*DWa); 9 May (male), Wauk (DJ)

Exotics

Monk Parakeet
3-4 Mar. (18), JP (PC); 6 Apr. (5), Zion (EW); 11 Apr., Wilmette (EW).

Introduced

Trumpeter Swan
16 Mar. (2), ClinL (MD)-Wisconsin bands; 2 June (3), Illiopolis (Sangamon Co)(MD)-unbanded ad's flying north.

INDEX - VOLUME 5

This index includes the names of all bird species mentioned in articles in Volume 5, except for the Field Notes in which species are listed in taxonomic order and can easily be accessed by referring to the proper season. Articles are also listed by principal author's last name. This index was compiled by Renee Baade.

Anhinga,45
Ani, Groove-billed,47,48
Avocet, American,131
Bent, Nancy, The House Finch in Illinois,7-10
Bittern, American,13,43,59,131
  Least,15,47,135
Black, Charles "Ted", Avian Archives: The Brendel Early Peoria Bird Lists,18
Blackbird, Brewer's,95,96
  Red-winged,56,85,135
  Yellow-headed,13,89,90,138
Bluebird, Eastern,16,56,58,130
  Mountain,67
Bobolink,59
Brant,45,65,66
Brown, Lauren E., and Angella K. Moorehouse, The Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Birds of Sand Lake: an Unusual Ephemeral Wetland inWest-Central Illinois,88-92
Brumfield, Robb T.,Wood Thrush Feeds Nesting Material to Fledging,17
Bufflehead,108,134
Bunting, Indigo,16,57,95,130,132,139
  Lark,46
  Lazuli,132
  Snow,48
Canvasback,90
Catbird, Gray,56
Chapel, Robert, Field Notes:The 1995 Fall Season,68-80
Chat, Yellow-breasted,131
Chickadee, Black-capped,60
Coot, American,16,58
Cormorant, Double-crested,16,134,135
Cowbird,Brown-headed,23,24,55,60,95,125,126
Cranes, Sandhill,13,15,16,18,19,95
  Whooping,19
Creeper, Brown,16,95
Crow, American,4,95
  Fish,95
Cuckoo, Black-billed,15,58
  Yellow-billed,55,57
Curlew, Long-billed,19
Danley, Robert, Field Notes:The 1995\1996 Winter Season,111-119
Deaton, Myrna, Field Notes:Spring Migration 1996,140-157
De Vore, Sheryl, Breeding Birds of the Ryerson Conservation Area,Lake County:1 June 1995-12 July 1995,53-56
-----. Feeder Station:How bird-feeding affects birds,60-61
Dickcissel,59
Dove, Mourning,20,56
Dowitcher, Long-billed,134
Duck, Harlequin,45,95
  Ring-necked,16
  Ruddy,16,58,90
  Tufted,44
  Wood,15,16,55,134
Dunlin,44
Eagle, Bald,19,95
  Golden,19,62
Egret, Cattle,90
  Great,15,19,58,95,134
  Snowy,18,134
Eider, King,45
Falcon, Peregrine,11,12,43,47,95,134
Field Notes. See Chapel, Robert; Danley, Robert; Kleen, Vernon; Deaton, Myrna
Finch, House,7,8,9,10,60,94
  Purple,135
Flycatcher, Acadian,53,55
  Ash-throated,45,49,50,51,52
  Brown-crested,51
  Dusky-capped,51
  Great-crested,16,49,50,51,52,55,57
  La Sagra's,51
  Least,125,130
  Nutting's,51,52
  Scissor-tailed,21,48
  Willow,15,59
Frigatebird, Magnificent,45,66
Friscia, Sue, Feeder Station:Backyard Birds in the Amazing 1996 Spring,138-139
Gadwall,16,93,134
Gannet, Northern,45
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray,15,25,26,57,130
Godwit, Marbled,18,90
Goldeneye, Barrow's,45,108
  Common,93,108
Goldfinch, American,85
Goose, Canada,55,66,93
  Greater White-fronted,18,131,134
  Ross's,95
  Snow,16,90
Goshawk, Northern,45,134
Grebe, Eared,44,46
  Horned,93
  Pied-billed,16,58,89,90,93,134
Grosbeaks, Black-headed,132,139
  Blue,135
  Evening,19,95
  Rose-breasted,56,57,127,138,139
Gull, Bonaparte's,16,63
  California,48
  Common Black-headed,63
  Glaucous,108,134
  Great Black-backed,48,95,108,131,134,135
  Herring,26
  Iceland,48,135
  Ivory,46
  Laughing,134
  Lesser Black-backed,48,95
  Little,63
  Mew,48
  Ring-billed,26,63
  Sabine's,47
  Thayer's,48,95
Harrier, Northern,14,43
Hawk, Cooper's,16,18,45,56,95
  Red-shouldered,18,19,55,56
  Red-tailed,14,94
  Rough-legged,19
Hennen, Mary, The Peregrine Falcon: Time to Delist?,11-12
Heron, Great Blue,58,93
  Green,15,45,59
  Little Blue,131
  Tricolored,48,131
Hummingbird, Ruby-throated,16,55
Hunt, L. Barrie, and James B. Cope, Regional Trends and Annual Variations in the Spring Arrival of Midwestern Birds,122-128
Ibis, Glossy,19,90,131
  White,84,85,90
  White-faced,90,131
Jay, Blue,60,94,131
Johnson, David B., and Alan F. Stokie, The 1995 Illinois Christmas Bird Count,93-106
Junco, Dark-eyed,130,135
Kestrel, American,134
Kingbird, Eastern,15,58,127
  Western,48
Kingfisher, Belted,15,58
Kinglet, Golden-crowned,15,16
  Ruby-crowned,15,16
Kittiwake, Black-legged,95
Kleen, Vernon, The 1995 Breeding Season Repot: Field Notes,27-40
Loon, Common,93,125
  Red-throated,46
Lowther, Peter E., Breeding Biology of House Sparrows: Observations of a Suburban Colony,3-7
Mallard,55,83,123
Martin, Purple,16
Meadowlark, Eastern,56,59,123
Mellin, Judy, Bird Finding Guide:Poplar Creek Forest Preserve,57-59
Merganser, Common,16
  Hooded,58,134
  Red-breasted,16,94
Merlin,62,95,134

Mockingbird, Northern,131
Moorhen, Common,13,90
Moskoff, William, The Critical Role of Habitat in the Breeding and Migratory Success of Wetland Birds,82-87
Nighthawk, Common,127
Night-Heron,
Black-crowned,15,45,47,59
Yellow-crowned,43,45
Nuthatch, Red-breasted,94,135
O'Brien, John, First Juvenal Ash-throated Flycatcher in Illinois,49-52
Oriole, Baltimore,15,56
Bullock's,1334
Northern,«)2»see «)1»Baltimore or Bullock's
Orchard,15,59,127,130
Osprey,13,134
Ovenbird,53,56,125,130
Owl, Barn,43
Great Horned,16,57
Long-eared,19,94,107
Northern Saw-whet,94,95
Short-eared,43,59,94
Snowy,18,19,44,46,95
Parakeet, Carolina,19
Monk,135
Pelican, American White,19,63,95,134
Petersen, Peter C., The 1996 Illinois Spring Bird Count,133-135
Phalarope, Wilson's,13
Pheasant, Ring-necked,16
Phoebe, Eastern,16,58,95
Pigeon, Passenger,18
Pintail, Northern,16
Pipit, American,95
Prarie-Chicken, Greater,18
Rail, Black,46,135
King,13,89,130
Virginia,13,47,95
Yellow,46,66,67,130
Reason, Roger, and Nancy Bent, Bird Finding Guide Nelson Lake Marsh: Birds, turtles, frogs,and butterflies abound at this 200-acre wetland,13-16
Redhead,134
Redpoll, Common,95
Redstart, American,16,127
Robin, American,123
Ruff,90
Sanderling,44,63,64
Sandpiper, Least,44
Pectoral,15
Purple,44,48
Semipalmated,44,86
Solitary,15
Spotted,15,58
White-rumped,86
Scaup, Greater,134
Lesser,16,134
Scoter, Surf,44,134
White-winged,134
Shelduck, Ruddy,16
Shoveler, Northern,16,58,93,134
Shrike, Loggerhead,94
Northern,18,59,65,95
Siskin, Pine,95
Snipe, Common,135
Solitaire, Townsend's,65,95,109
Sora,15,47,66,130
Sparrow, American Tree,135
Brewer's,44
Cassin's,47
Clay-colored,43,44,47,135,138
Eurasian Tree,94,135
Field,56,125,135
Fox,15,16
Grasshopper,43,46,59,66
Harris',44,47,95
Henslow's,43,46,47
House,3,4,5,6,9,10
Lark,23
LeConte's,95
Savannah,56,59
Sharp-tailed,46,47,59,129
Song,56,85,130
Swamp,13,59,85,130,135
White-crowned,15,59,131,138
White-throated,16,59,130,135
Vesper,95
Starling, European,3,5,130
Stilt, Black-necked,24,25,90,135
Stork, Wood,19
Swallow, Barn,15,47
Cliff,127
Northern Rough-winged,15,47
Tree,15,16,47,58
Violet-green,
Swan, Mute,93,95
Trumpeter,18,93
Swift, Chimney,127
Tanager, Scarlet,45,55,56,57
Summer,45,130
Teal, Blue-winged,15,16,134
Cinnamon,135
Green-winged,16,84,134
Tern, Black,13
Caspian,19,26.135
Common,26
Forster's,16,135
Royal,47
Thrasher, Brown,15
Thrush, Gray-cheeked,16,129
Hermit,16,135
Swainson's,16,129
Varied,95,109,110
Wood,17,23,53,55,56
Tit, Blue,60
Great,60
Towhee, Eastern,58
Green-tailed,129,132
Rufous-sided,«)2»see «)1»Eastern or Spotted
Spotted,95
Turkey, Wild,18,94
Turnstone, Ruddy,44
Veery,16,53,56,130,131
Vireo, Bell's,15,59
Red-eyed,15,55,56,127,130,131
Warbling,15,59,127
Yellow-throated,53,55,56
Vulture, Turkey,14,18,59,127
Walters, Eric, Owl Skirmish,107
Warbler, Bay-breasted,15,127
Black-and-white,15,16,130,135
Black-throated Green,21,22,56
Blackburnian,15
Blackpoll,15
Blue-winged,56,58
Canada,16,126
Chestnut-sided,15,22,23,24,56,57,58,126,127,130
Connecticut,43,130,138
Golden-cheeked,60
Kirtland's,18
Kentucky,45
Magnolia,15,16,127,130
Mourning,43,130
Nashville,130
Northern Parula,132,135
Orange-crowned,95,125,135
Palm,95,127,135
Pine,95
Prairie,43,45
Prothonotary,55
Swainson's,44,129,131,132
Tennessee,130,139
Wilson's,15,16,126
Worm-eating,45
Yellow,13,127
Yellow-rumped,138
Yellow-throated,45,130
Waterthrush, Louisiana,15,125
Northern,15
Waxwing, Bohemian,18,95
Cedar,15,58,59,131
Whimbrel,46,131,134
Wigeon, American,93
Willet,18,44,134
Williamson, Christine, New Decade Dawns for Chicago Area Lakefront Birding,42-48.
------. Illinois' Incredible 1996 Spring Migration,129-132
Woodcock, American,15,95
Woodpecker, Downy,135
Hairy,135
Red-headed,57,94
Wood-Pewee, Eastern,55,57,131
Wren, House,16,57,130
Marsh,16,130
Rock,48
Sedge,59
Winter,135
Wright, Kevin, Makeshift trees help photographer get natural shots of woodpeckers in his backyard,17
Yellowlegs, Greater,15,58
Lesser,15,58,134
Yellowthroat, Common,13,59,85,130

Send seasonal reports to:

Fall Migration - (1 August - 30 November)
Due 7 December • Robert Chapel,
306 1/2 West California , Urbana, IL 61801

Winter Season - (1 December - 28 February)
Due 7 March • Robert Danley,
2201 Clay Street, Murphysboro, IL 62966

Spring Migration - (1 March - 31 May)
Due 7 June • Myrna Deaton,
4540 E. Spruce St., Decatur, IL 62526

Breeding Season - (1 June - 31 July)
Due 7 August • Vernon Kleen
Illinois Department of Conservation
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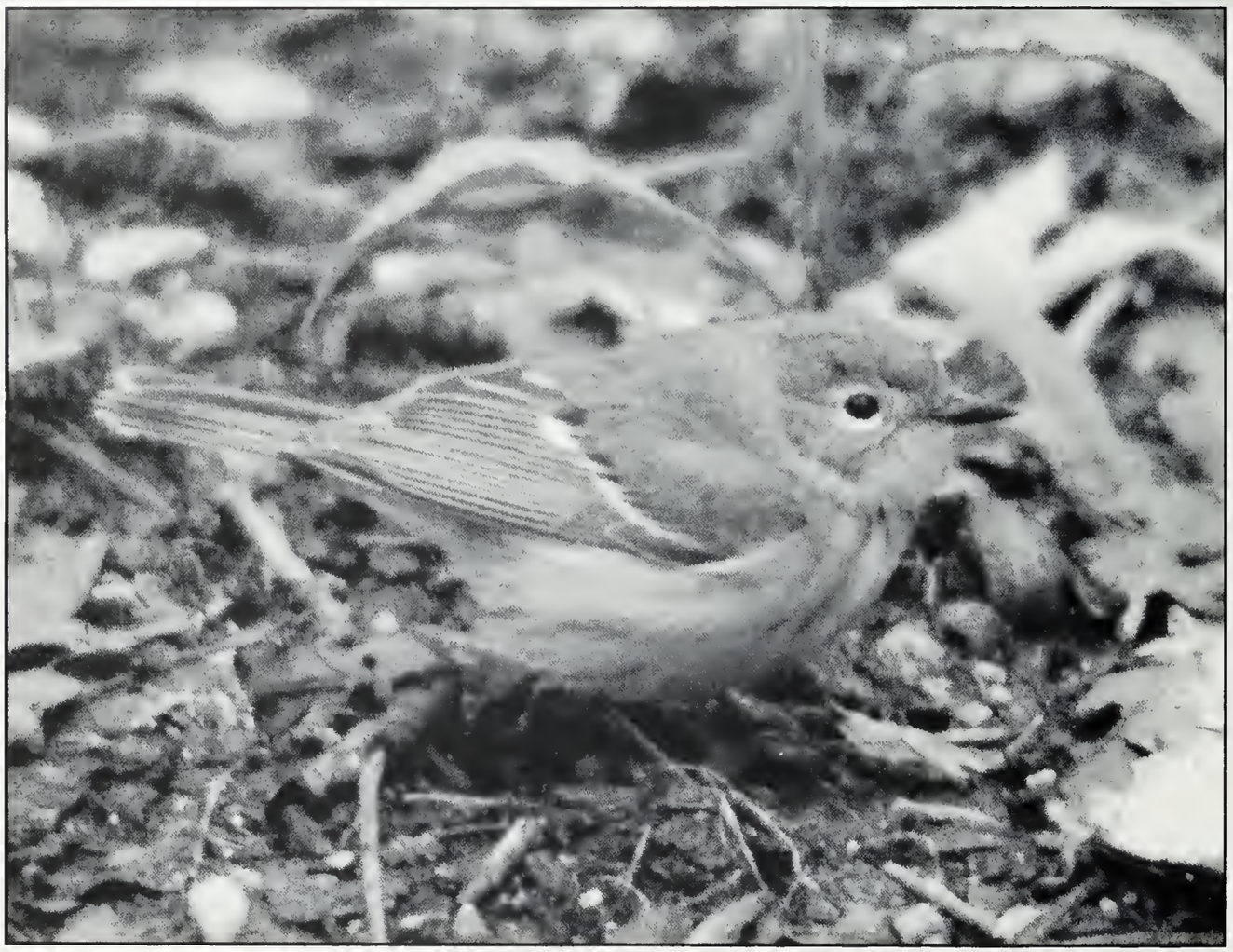

Magnolia Warbler, Pilcher Park, Joliet, Will Co. 14 May 1996. This bird was foraging on the ground with many other small songbirds during the unseasonably cold spring of 1996. For related stories on the incredible spring migration of 1996, see inside. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.